

**SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
(Called by Mayor Guinta)**

August 8, 2006

7:00 PM

Mayor Guinta called the meeting to order.

Mayor Guinta called for the Pledge of Allegiance, this function being led by Alderman Smith.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Clerk called the roll. There were fourteen Aldermen present.

Present: Aldermen Roy, Gatsas, Long, Duval, Osborne, Pinard, O'Neil,
Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity, Smith, Thibault, Forest

Mayor Guinta stated the purpose of this special meeting this evening is for the Board of Mayor and Aldermen to discuss the recent criminal activity that's occurred in the City over the past few months. It's certainly been a concern not just of myself but of every member of this Board and I appreciate all of you being here. I have asked the Police Department to be here to answer some of our questions and to talk a little bit about where we are and where we're going. I appreciate their attendance. I do want to talk briefly before I bring them up about a few things. First of all, where we've been in the last few weeks particularly last week. As you probably recall last Monday I believe it was the Chairman of the Board presented an idea/proposal to the Board that was reviewed, discussed and voted on a week ago today increasing the number of reserve officers in the City of Manchester from six slots to 20 slots. Now, we currently have four reserve officers...we would like to see that number expanded up to 20 if possible. I think that that idea was a very good beginning to what I feel has continued to be a very comprehensive plan in how to combat some of the criminal activity and I'll have certainly more recommendations this evening. I want to thank Alderman Lopez for participating in what I think is a very serious issue in the City. I appreciate his work in trying to formulate an idea that has great merit and can provide additional assistance to our full-time officers in the City and I look forward to working with him and the rest of the Board on some of the other proposals that may come forward from this discussion this evening. The second piece of the component that was released Friday of last week was increasing community involvement in the City, it's critical that the community work with the City of Manchester in identifying any suspicious activity or any drug-related activity...anything that's going on in your neighborhood. We're asking you to step up, speak with the Police Department, let them know and take an active and professional role in combating some of the criminal activity in the City. I've been joined by the Chief in asking

for more citizen action and more citizen volunteers in manning the substations that we already have in the City. For those of you who don't know we have three substations at the moment...one at Sweeney Park, one on Maple Street across from the JFK ice arena and the other one is at MCRC on Lake Avenue. We are asking and again we'll continue to ask the public to inquire through either calling Sgt. Kevin Kincaid at 628-6132 ext. 437 to get involved and if you also want to report criminal activity and you want to do that anonymously you can call the CrimeLine and that's 624-4040. Again, those are two ways that the public can help combat this issue and if you want to remain anonymous you have a mechanism by which you can do that. We have to increase the number of Neighborhood Watches we have, we do have 12 active Neighborhood Watches and we've got four more that are ready to go and the Neighborhood Watches have anywhere from four to 15 people involved in each one of them and it really does makes a world of difference in a neighborhood in how you combat the criminal element that might try to infiltrate your neighborhood. The third piece is something that we announced yesterday at the Police Department and I was pleased to see the Police Chief, Sheriff Jim Hardy, a member of the State Parole office, and a representative from the County Attorney's office join myself in announcing with U. S. Attorney Tom Colantuono an additional grant that will provide Manchester with a additional grant that will provide Manchester with immediate resources for 12 additional officers to be on the streets patrolling the hot zones in the City. Those officers are going to have the flexibility to deal with criminal activity as it may occur, I think it's going to make an immediate impact and impression in neighborhoods and I think it sends a message to criminals that you're not welcome, whatever criminal activity you have is not acceptable and I believe that this Board stands very united in making sure that those officers that are not just Manchester Police Department but also the Probation office and members of the Sheriff's office...likely a Deputy Sheriff will be out in force until we can get rid of that criminal element. I think people in those hot zones on the west side on the east side will see an increased presence even more so than the increased presence you've seen over the last month. These are all efforts that we're undertaking because we recognize as a body the importance of fighting the criminal element. Now, we are a safe City. We are a welcoming City. We want to send a message that if you live here, if you work here, if you visit here you'll be safe. If you're a criminal you will be caught, you will be prosecuted and you will be put in jail. And, the criminal activity is either going to be prosecuted by the County Attorney's office or the U. S. Attorney's office if it so warrants. So, this is a multi-agency approach to how to deal with this issue in the City and I can tell you to this point I've been more than pleased with the community support, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen's unified support and the Police Department's approach in combating what I think and everybody feels is a very important and serious issue. There's a few things...can you hand out that letter...has that been handed out yet...it did, okay. I have a letter here from me to the Board that I'd like to have a discussion on. The first three points talk about what we've done. I've included ten additional items, recommendations for discussion that I believe are warranted at this time and I will read them so the public can hear it and then I'd like to bring the Police chief up for a statement and I'd like to have Alderman Mike Lopez, Chairman of the Board,

provide us with statement and then we can have the Board questions and discussion about these ten items.

Alderman O'Neil stated if you're going to go to the ten items...can we get at some point other than what I've read in the paper...the only information I have on item 3 above is exactly what I read in the paper.

Mayor Guinta stated I've got some information to announce this evening regarding item 3.

Alderman O'Neil stated I'd like to see some details on that. I prefer not getting information by reading it in the paper and I'm a little disappointed that that's how I had to find out about it. The Grant that was announced and there's some confusion in talking with some Aldermen as to whether or not it's been going on for a little bit.

Mayor Guinta stated oh the three above. I did send out a correspondence on Friday afternoon to the Aldermen.

Alderman O'Neil stated that was a press conference. Fortunately, I have to work sometimes and all I'm asking is if there's some details that can provide, please provide it...that's what I'm asking.

Mayor Guinta stated on Friday we were working with the U. S. Attorney's office as recently as last week to try to put together a plan. We were able to come to an agreement. As soon as we were able to do that we issued a letter to the Board members, we wanted to announce that initiative as soon as humanly possible. I did invite every Aldermen to attend. I understand it was during the day so not everybody...

Alderman O'Neil interjected I'm not being critical of that but it's now Tuesday night and I still don't have any detailed information on that. All I have is what I've read in the paper.

Mayor Guinta stated we had a press conference yesterday.

Alderman O'Neil stated your Honor that is not how information should be shared with the Board is a press conference in the middle of the afternoon. If it wasn't your office's responsibility then it's the Police Department's responsibility to make sure we know about this.

Mayor Guinta stated the initiative is my initiative so it's my responsibility to notify the Aldermen and what I'm saying is I invited every Alderman on Friday to the press conference. We have a meeting this evening...24 hours after the press conference to review it. I'd be happy to talk with you privately about some of the...

Alderman O'Neil asked privately or publicly...it doesn't matter to me...people are asking me about this and I can't answer a question about it. I have no information on it.

Alderman Gatsas stated I guess my question is this is a program that's on-going.

Mayor Guinta stated I just announced it yesterday.

Alderman Gatsas stated the way the paper read was we'd been given these funds for a while for overtime.

Mayor Guinta stated no...there are Street Sweeper monies that has been utilized by the City in the past. The program that we initiated yesterday is brand new.

Alderman O'Neil stated I would fall under that same.

Alderman Gatsas stated that's what I read and I understand, your Honor, that you have press conferences and I can appreciate that but I would think that a press conference is getting that out to the public and all I'm saying is that if you can get us something of what they've done in the past with the Street Sweeper money, just so that we have an idea because if it's used for overtime already and that's not reflected in the budget I'd like to know how much of those dollars are for overtime.

Mayor Guinta asked do you want from the inception of Street Sweeper which was back in '99/'95...I can get you from '95 to now how Street Sweeper money has been utilized. We can do that either through our department or through the U. S. Attorney's office.

Alderman Gatsas stated we looked at a budget and I understand that the Street Sweeper money comes in and we see it. But, those are like federal funds that are coming in and there's no allocation in the budget so we understand where they're going. So, if somebody says to me...there's a budget of a dollar and we're receiving another \$15.00 by federal grant then we should be looking at that when we're looking at a budget because if somebody's saying there's "X" amount of dollars in overtime and there's additional dollars coming in to provide more overtime and we don't know that.

Mayor Guinta stated in the case of yesterday that was not...that was money that I was able to secure last week that was not budgeted nor anticipated by the City.

Alderman O'Neil stated I think what happened was unfortunately the paper mixed programs together. I understand now your initiative is brand new, it hasn't been going on but what I read...that's why the fact that there was no detailed information provided the only thing I can go on is what I read in the paper hoping that it was accurate which apparently it was not.

Mayor Guinta stated I will reread the article and then I'll get you something that specifically identifies...but, what I can say publicly is it's a brand new initiative that I was able to secure unexpected funds for to address what I think is a problem occurring in the City now.

Alderman O'Neil stated I apologize for breaking in on that but I just had no information.

Thank you, your Honor.

Mayor Guinta stated the ten items that I want to discuss tonight that I'm proposing that I believe we need to focus on as a City are the following:

- A Board commitment to add 10 additional police officers to the complement that already exists of 215 to bring it up to 225 over the next two years. I think that's an area that we have clearly talked about for the last six months. We realized based on the Chief's recommendation of a need of 225 that this is something that we need to work toward and we need to be very mindful as we prepare budgets and as this Board looks at budget proposals from me. So, that's the first commitment that I think we need to reiterate to the public and I'd like to have discussion from this Board about support of that proposal.
- Reactivating NET the Neighborhood Enhancement Team which is a group of City employees...Fire, Police, Health, Building and City Clerk...and essentially identifying potential issues in the difference neighborhood from a residential standpoint rather than just focusing on commercial. I think we need to start focusing as has been expressed by members of this Board and members of the public that in order to make this a program that benefits everybody...landlords, absentee landlords...need to participate. I think that that team has been successful in the past and I think that they can be successful in the future targeting fire code issues, building code issues, licensing and permitting violations, liquor law violations and overcrowding issues in the residential neighborhoods.
- Reinstating the School Resources Officers (SRO) in the middle schools. I've been speaking with the School Administration and they have assured me as of about an hour ago that they've identified some additional funds in their existing budget that will not be utilized in energy savings where they can reinstate over a period time the SRO's in the middle schools. I would like to work with the School Administration to bring that to a vote to the School Board. I think a critical component of ensuring that there's a minimal amount of criminal activity in the City is to place those officers in the schools and allow students the opportunity to work with those officers and allow those officers to be the eyes and ears of the Police Department within our School system. It's proven to work in the past, it's something that I think we as a Board hope will agree and I'd like to bring that to the School Board at their next meeting for review of the proposal that would be put forward by the School District Administration.
- I'd like to look into returning the DARE Program into the schools and asking the business community to work with us on the funding. If you look at two officers plus their collateral material that's required it's approximately a hundred thousand dollars. I've talked to some business entities this week who have expressed interest in supporting this financially. I think it's something that so long as statistically it improves the situations in the schools I think as a Board we need to review that approach and see if we can reinstitute that and again using the business community who support this as a resource that may allow us to do something without using taxpayer funds by working with the business community as they too see the benefits of some of these programs.
- I'd like to explore expanding the Weed and Seed Program to the west side. As you know, it's only focused on the east side at the moment. Bringing it into the

west side whether it's that program or a variation of the program I think would be extremely beneficial in bringing that presence into the west side of the city.

- Sixth, I'd like to add an additional police substation to the west side. We're looking at potential sites. We've identified a couple of potential sites in the Amory Street area but we haven't been able to finalize the location. I think the important thing is to have a police presence in some of the hot zones and certainly that area on the west side has been a particular problem of late. I think putting a substation in that location would help significantly.
- I think we need to look far more seriously than we have in police grants. Dennis Hebert who is working for the City is working with me now on trying to expand his capability of looking into police grants and he's hopefully going to be making some announcements in the next couple of weeks about how he can work with us in expanding the role of the VISTA volunteers to focus on public safety.
- The eighth item is expanding of increasing the Citizen's Police Academy. This is something that has worked in the past from time-to-time in the City. I think asking the public to respond, teaching them what we do as a Police Department and then hopefully graduating from the Academy and then either manning substations or starting Neighborhood Watches is another way that we can promote and increase the citizens input and ability to work with the department to improve the crime situation.
- I've talked a lot about Compstat and how the Intergraph System that will be up and running...my expectation would be no later than September of 2007...how that's going to continue to benefit the City. We are doing some Compstat like analysis now...that's recent changes that have happened in the Police Department that either the Chief or the Deputy Chief can respond to during their conversation with us but I think that we need to continue to focus on making sure that the Intergraph System is up and running at the latest September 1st if not sooner which is going to be a challenge but I think we have to stay vigilant in that and continue to focus on how we can use a Compstat like approach in the City to make sure that we are accountable for every incident that occurs in the City.
- And, finally, I've asked the Police Department to begin convenience store security audits so every convenience store in the City is at least aware of the deterrences they can take and the decisions that they can make to reduce any criminal activity night or day in the convenience stores throughout the City. As you know, some of them are in neighborhoods. We don't want to see any of the criminal element expanding into new areas and part of the concern that I have is the rash in the areas of convenience stores being hit. So, this is already underway. If you're a convenience store owner and you haven't been contacted you will be and they're going to supply those security audits and we hope that you do take under advisement and make the changes that are going to be recommended to you.

Mayor Guinta stated I would like to call on Alderman Lopez to make a statement and then we'll have the Police Department up.

Alderman Lopez stated as the Mayor indicated at the last meeting that he would invite me to a few meetings which he did. One meeting was called by Senator Lou D'Allesandro from the west side with the Aldermen. A couple of Aldermen had to leave because we had a quorum...that's the only reason they left...Armand Forest and myself stayed and listened to some of the concerns that were brought to our attention. Again, I met with the Chief of Police and the Mayor today and as the Mayor has indicated some of the things that was recommended. I've seen a lot of ideas, good ideas that are coming forward from a lot of

sources and from the Aldermen themselves. I assured the Mayor that the Board is united for the safety of the citizens of Manchester. We have a fine Police force and there's no doubt in my mind that if we have to put 215 police officers out there today the Chief would do that for the safety of the citizens of Manchester. There's a lot of ideas that have to be looked at there's no question about it because there's a lot of funding aspect in it and so with that I'm sure there's going to be a lot of questions and I assure you that the interest of everybody that I've associated myself with in the last week have assured 100% cooperation, a complete understanding...the police officers and the Chief of Police have conveyed to me that they're willing to move forward in a lot of areas. There's a lot of things as you've heard tonight and they can explain it. We're not going to get into anything technical or anything like that. I think each Alderman could talk to the Chief separately. But, again, on behalf of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen I think the courtesy was information provided by the Mayor and discussed in length today and there's going to be a lot of discussion about a lot of the programs but I think that we're moving into a complete positive and it's not going to happen over night...it could take a month, three months, a year, two years if you're talking about new officers. So, it's an on-going situation and it would be nice if we could get rid of crime but we can take control of it and get rid of undesirables in our City and I think the Chief of Police and everybody on this Board will do everything they can. Thank you, your Honor.

Alderman Gatsas stated Mr. Chairman of the Board would you share with the rest of us Aldermen that are on the east side of the river the concerns that were raised by the west side Aldermen that maybe crime doesn't appear on the east side of the river. I certainly would like to know what the discussions were as being an Alderman that represents a ward.

Alderman Lopez stated I think I said that Senator Lou D'Allesandro who called for the meeting and the Mayor provided somebody for the meeting with the Chief of Police and his deputies discussed various things on the west side and concerns. As a Senator from the west side he wanted to voice his concerns to the Mayor and the Aldermen and the Police Chief. So, all the things that were discussed about crime, about a substation were discussed at that meeting.

Alderman Gatsas stated I don't think you're assuming that I as a State Senator on the east side of the river should be calling for the Aldermen on the east side to meet so that we can have our discussion on the concerns that we have on the east side of the river.

Alderman Lopez stated if you want to do that I think that's your prerogative as a State Senator to do what you want.

Mayor Guinta stated there are a lot of hands going up but I do want to bring the Police Department up so that they can take part in this conversation and then I'll go to Alderman Osborne.

Alderman Osborne stated I have a comment here...nine out of the ten requests that the Mayor has here is fine...the one request...number 2 is to ensure landlords act responsibly. I think this is one of the biggest things. I think we have to attack this from the roots and not combat it as it happens. I think it costs a lot of money to combat it as it happens and if we can attack it from the roots and to avoid some of the things to happen before it happens I think this is the main thrust we should be going. I'd like to place this in my Committee as Chairman of Public Safety so that I could get into it a little bit more with the Aldermen.

Mayor Guinta stated I think one of the goals that I have tonight is to have a very open discussion about these recommendations and any other recommendations and any other recommendations that are going to come from this meeting or subsequent meetings I think at the appropriate time a motion to refer this list both to your committee and possibly CIP for funding issues would be very appropriate. So, I wouldn't want to just refer number 2 to you probably all 10 to you.

Alderman Osborne stated yes I realize that part but I think number 2 is one of the most important things in here and we should start at the roots is what I'm saying. I know you need the rest but I think number 2 is where it all comes from. Thank you.

Mayor Guinta stated why don't we let the Chief make a brief statement and then we can go to the Aldermen if that's appropriate.

Chief Jaskolka stated I brought with me tonight at my far left Deputy Chief Glenn Leidemer, beside me Captain Gerry Lessard who's overseeing the Investigative Division and to my right side Deputy Chief Gary Simmons and Sergeant Kevin Kincaid of the Community Policing Unit is hiding out back and we'll bring him up if we need him. We've been asked to come here tonight to give you a brief talk about crime and safety in the City of Manchester. Many of us have lived in this City for a long time and have seen some of the great changes that have come along due to the people who have sat on this Board over the years. Manchester's a great City, it truly is. It's become a very large City, it's a destination City and I can emphatically tell you that Manchester is a safe City. But Manchester unlike any other large City anyplace in the country isn't without its problems. With the influx of population we don't get to pick and choose who comes into the City. Unfortunately, with the good also comes the bad. And, if we think about it thousands of people come to Manchester every day to either work or dine or shop or just to partake of the activities that the City has to offer. Even with this growth the one thing that's really great about Manchester is it's still a tight knit community. There's still people in the neighborhoods and the community care about each other and they care about their neighborhoods and they want to do everything they can to keep their neighborhoods and that's probably one of our greatest resources in the City is our citizens. Over the last couple of months since the beginning of the summer there's been some incidents of violence. A number of these incidents have been very serious, they've involved weapons and some of this have involved firearms and they've

become a major concern to not only the department but they have also become news stories within the City. Unfortunately, what is too often overlooked the stories that surround the many successful investigations that go into these...the identification of the perpetrators, the arrest and the prosecution of the people responsible for the crimes. My colleagues that I brought here with me tonight if you'd like later can give you a brief synopsis of the incidents and the programs that we are currently implementing to combat these issues. Usually after an arrest is made in these situations the investigation continues...we can identify trends and reasons and causes as to why these crimes occur so we can better create strategies to enable to combat these problems in the future. What we found by these investigations is a lot of the major incidents show that the majority of the incidents are unrelated. What it has shown is the separate incidents themselves, the people involved, the perpetrators involved somewhere along the line had some knowledge of each other. In other words, they're not random acts. This type of information gathering is going to continue until we're able to reach our ultimate goal and that is to arrest everybody that's involved in these crimes not just the major players. Unfortunately, as public safety can't be on every street corner every hour of the day, every minute of the day so we have to rely on the information we obtain from every source to these investigations and any other means that we can to combat crime and also to come up with strategies to protect our community. The efforts that were announced yesterday by the Mayor and the U. S. Attorney's office along with the current programs are designed to do just that. With increasing law enforcement presence in certain identified areas we'll be able to make a more pronounced presence to the criminal element but at the same time we'll be able to be out there making contacts with the community, the neighbors, the citizens who care about their neighborhoods and are able to provide us with valuable information. Again, as I said before our most valuable resources are our citizens. I've said in the past and I'll continue to say it that the police department is only as good as the citizens who are willing to support their efforts by becoming involved in their community. Law enforcement and city officials can't do it alone. They need the help of every citizen to take care of their neighborhoods. The putting on of this extra manpower marks the beginning of the process that is designed to eliminate crime before it has a chance to take hold to keep our streets safe for everyone. I, personally, have lived in Manchester my entire life and I've seen Manchester come from a small mill town. When I came on the job I saw the depression in the downtown area...we had boarded up storefronts. I remember the problems of the 90's I was on the patrols and walked the streets back then. I remember not being able to go two or three blocks without having a gang of kids taking over a street corner. We went out there in groups as police officers and citizens who wanted to take care of their community and we were able to do so not only through a police presence but also through the assistance of the citizens. What I can say I'm seeing now I don't believe is as bad as what we had in the 90's. We don't have groups taking over street corners and taking over neighborhoods. We've already taken some proactive steps through the Community Policing Unit as well as the preventative policing efforts to deal with these issues and out of all of the years that we've worked here we've seen Manchester become the incredible City that it is. We're working as a team with the people on this Board and the citizens of Manchester and we look forward to

sharing these successes with everyone who hopes to make this a better and safer community. Thank you. If you'd like I can have each of these people give you a short presentation on what's currently going on in the City as far as police work goes.

Mayor Guinta asked Alderman do you want to ask your questions or do you want to...

Alderman Osborne asked what question is that your Honor?

Mayor Guinta stated I thought...I'm sorry, I thought you had a question.

Alderman Osborne stated I had a statement before but I'll have some questions later...let them go through their presentation.

Captain Gerry Lessard stated for those of you who don't know me my name is Gerry Lessard, I'm a Captain in the Investigations Division. I oversee this particular division and I wanted tonight to take an opportunity to identify the unit's responsibilities, our work activities are tasks and our successful programs despite our recent challenges...in addition, I'd also like identify some of our department's special initiatives we've undertaken recently to address current problems and speak on recent shooting incidents that have been occurring in the City. The Investigative Division is made up of several units with specific functions. Our Detective Unit investigates general crimes...burglaries, thefts, assaults and the like and in addition we're involved in investigations of major crimes...homicides, felony assaults, weapons crimes. Also, we have officers in resources involved in checks in fraud, investigations and identity theft crimes which is clearly on the increase nationwide. Also, we have resources involved in arson investigations. In addition, my Detective Unit is involved in missing persons investigations and also gun permit and the issuing of gun permits. Under the umbrella of the Investigative Division falls the Domestic Violence Unit...we have a nationally-recognized Domestic Assault Response Team who handle domestic abuse and domestic abuse in progress calls. In addition, these team of officers deal with sexual assault crimes and sexual assault investigations. Added to that unit is our Victim Advocacy component who works directly with victims of abuse. Under the guise of the Investigations Division comes our Special Investigations Division comes our Special Investigations Unit commonly referred to as our Narcotics Unit or our Special Operations Unit. Their work involves surveillance, undercover operations, undercover drug buys and the like. In addition, we also have our Juvenile Unit and they're involved in general delinquency investigations and CHINS investigations...incidents committed by juvenile offenders. Also, another component in the Juvenile Unit would be the Child Abuse and Sexual Exploitation Unit involving incidents of sex crimes and abuse committed against children in our community. We've initiated a new program and this is a growing trend nationwide...internet crimes against children...we're kept real busy with this new initiative and I'm glad to have this on board to address that problem. You're certainly all familiar with our successful School Resource Program, our SRO Program...the coordination of the Weed and Seed Program

which was mentioned earlier that falls under our Juvenile Unit, we also have the coordination of our Manchester Police Athletic League, the MPAL Program and in addition out of our Juvenile Unit we have our Sex Offender Registration Program where we monitor upwards of 300 sex offenders here in this community and make sure that they properly register and last under the umbrella of the Investigations Unit would become the Evidence Unit and the evidence storage cataloguing and preservation of evidence which is a key component in any criminal investigation. This structure of our Investigative Division and its components, in my opinion, is a testament to our unique approach to crime in this community. As a law enforcement agency we certainly do much more than simply respond to calls for service and take reports, speak to people and file a report. We're proactive and not just reactive and I think that says a lot for our particular agency and this community. We continuously work to identify problems, crime trends...we've incorporated many special initiatives and effective programs to address areas of concern. One of our primary goals is to prevent crime before it occurs. In my opinion, we have clearly a good track record concerning solving crimes and making arrests. I recently reviewed homicides that took place in this community from 1995 to present. The total number of homicide cases in Manchester from January 1, 1995 to present stands at 28. The total number of solved homicide cases in that period stands at 24. So, the total number of unsolved homicides from 1995 is at four and clearly one unsolved homicide maybe too many but I'd suggest to you that we certainly have a good solvability rate. We had one homicide that occurred this year that was on June 25th...the shooting incident that occurred outside of a bar on Wilson Street. Shortly after that incident we took a person into custody and he's presently awaiting trial. With respect to the recent shooting incidents in the community...as of January 1st to the present we've had 26 shots fired calls for service. Three of these calls were determined to be accidental discharges, one occurred on I-93, however, still within the City limits. Eight of the incidents were cleared with arrests and I note that some of the cases involved multiple arrests are co-defendants so that in the event that there were eight incidents that were cleared with arrests but there are multiple persons taken into custody for these incidences. We've identified strong suspects in six of these cases and ten of the incidents have in fact occurred on the west side. With respect to the west side incidents involving arrests we had a double shooting on Amory Street March 11th that took place with two individuals seated in a parked car in a business on the west side were shot. The investigation was on-going...while we were able to identify a number of individuals we believed were involved and we then made four individual arrests...four individuals are now facing trial for their involvement in that particular case. Additionally, we had the shooting incident April 7th on Douglas Street where shotgun rounds were fired into a building...no one was hurt in that incident...three individuals now face charges so that we were successful in closing that case with arrests as well. On July 24th we had a gunshot call on Cartier Street where several rounds were fired in the air and no one was hurt in that incident. One person was arrested shortly thereafter and a tech 9 firearm was seized in that incident. There are certainly on-going west side shootings that we are currently investigating. One in particular would be the Amory Street shooting which occurred on July 18th whereby a victim was shot in the chest by an unknown subject

and as I mentioned that case is on-going. The Chief had mentioned that no information at this point has led us to believe or would suggest that any of these shootings are related in any way and we believe that all of these individuals are not out there...there's not any type of a gang war going on but that none of these incidents are in fact related. As I mentioned we certainly have many special initiatives and programs and I'd like to share those with you now. As was mentioned earlier we have the Operation Street Sweeper...this is a federal grant program offered through the U. S. Attorney's office and the Manchester Police Department works in conjunction with the State Police Narcotics Unit and the Attorney General's Drug Task Force and I'll try to be brief but I think it's important to note the work that's been done by this team of officers that go out on a routine basis. Since January 1st we've made 40 arrests, we've executed 19 search warrants and we've seized nine pounds of cocaine, 48 pounds of marijuana and in addition we've seized 14 handguns. Now, what's really important here, in my opinion, is that the significance of the large number of weapons seized in these operations would suggest the commonality of weapons possession by these targeted persons. Moreover an additional point of interest which can't be measured in statistics would be the amount of violent crimes and shooting incidents which may have been avoided as a result of us seizing these weapons and taking them off the street. Another program that we're involved with our Knock & Talk assignments...this is a federal grant with the U. S. Attorney's office where we put teams of officers out in response to intelligence reports, direct police observations, calls to the Mayor's office, Crime Line tips where we take the team and send them off to the location where there's suspicious activity is said to be taking place...we've had ten assignments go out since January 1st, we've made 100 contacts with 78 wanted checks and we've made four arrests and 48 field intelligence reports were submitted and I'll go on with some more...the successful programs that we've run. We've had the Street Sweeper detail...a collaborative effort between the MPD and the NH State Police similar to what I just mentioned as the Operations Street Sweeper but this involves a traffic component and it involves a uniformed police officer unit that goes out...we've made 32 arrests since January 1st in this assignment and we've issued 206 motor vehicle summonses, 92 motor vehicle stops and a number of City Ordinance violations and 385 citizen contacts. Another successful program is our Weed and Seed operations...it's a federally-funded program through the Community Capacity Development office and overseen by the U. S. Attorney's office and under that umbrella we've had the Weed and Seed anti-prostitution details or routinely make arrests for prostitution activity in this community and those units go out. We have the Weed and Seed anti-graffiti details, we have worked five of these shifts where we've made six arrests and I will go on with another Weed and Seed initiative...the Weed and Seed domestic violence component. We've worked 31 of these shifts with 41 checks and 17 arrests. We also have our Project Safe Neighborhood Program...again, a federally-funded grant through the U. S. Attorney's office...this targets youths who may have been in possession of weapons...this is an educational component where teams of officers team up with a juvenile probation officer and do a home visit on the child. We have our Juvenile Offender Locator Program...this is a probation check where teams of officers coupled with a juvenile probation officer do unannounced home visits and

we have at this point since January 1st have completed 468 child checks. We have a number of traffic and patrol initiatives...I'll move on and try and speed this up a bit but I do want to mention that we've had DWI patrols, sobriety checkpoints, Operation Safe Streets and noise enforcement details. All of these programs, I think, show our initiative, our desire to do things a bit different other than just collect reports. One program that we recently completed was the high-intensity, high-visibility detail...the Mayor had just mentioned that this program will repeat itself and through the Mayor and the U. S. Attorney's office we'll be receiving funds to run that program again. In closing remarks I would just like to mentioned that we are certainly doing our best to meet these challenges. We are not just reactive, we are proactive, we do have programs, successful programs in effect and we're committed to maintaining our level of success in keeping this community safe. Thank you.

Mayor Guinta stated questions from the Board...I have a bit of a list going...

Alderman Shea stated thank you for the presentation. As I look at the list that the Mayor submitted 1, 2 and 6 generate in my mind a few questions relating to each one. The first one is and this goes to the Chief of Police. Chief, how many officers does Manchester need to ensure that all sections of the City are adequately protected at all times. I know we speak of 215, we speak of 225, we speak as you mentioned of an influx of different people coming in, the growth of the City, the fact that there are instances of violent crimes. Do we need more policemen than 225 in order to protect all sections of the City?

Chief Jaskolka replied the FBI published the stats of...they don't tell you how many police officers to have but what they do is they publish stats that tells you how many police officers a city of our size would normally have and for some reason I don't seem to have that in here but it would bring us up to about 250 police officers if we were to be on a level with the rest of the nation. In New England the numbers are a little bit higher. In the northeast the numbers are a little bit higher...the statistics for the nation are 2.3 per 1,000...for the northeast it's 2.7. The number 225 that I came up with I believe is a realistic number that we can reach. Should this Board turn around and tell me to hire 250 officers I don't think the pool is out there right now. That would be gradual. The ten officers that the Mayor is suggesting over a two-year period will be a gradual hiring. That number I think we can meet and I think that's a number that we can put the police officers out on the street and I can also beef up my divisions. What I've done over the past two years is I've been picking from some of the divisions in order to get the police officers out on the street where I've identified as being a greater need for them but at the same time my other divisions are suffering as far as manpower goes.

Alderman Shea stated I think that's one of the concerns that all constituents in the City relate to...the fact that because of violent crimes in a certain section obviously emphasis is placed there but it's like a tube of toothpaste...if you squeeze it and it comes out then obviously there are other things that come out as well in terms of needs and responsibilities and things

of that nature. So, it's just important that people realize that we are not really at a level of police protection commensurate with the type of society that we're now faced with in not only Manchester but other communities. But, speaking of Manchester's needs we should go towards a higher number if it is at all possible and when you come in these are the kinds of things that I think have to be brought to the attention of the Aldermen whether funding is available or not that's a different story but I think that's important. The second point has to do with number 2 and I think that the Mayor indicated that there is, at present, a committee that he's going to activate and I'm not sure, your Honor, I have a list of possible people that should be on this committee or group...it should start with the Mayor's office...there's should be a representative from the Mayor's office, the Highway Department, the Health Department, the Planning Board, the Building Department, the City Clerk, the Police Department and an Alderman should be represented on this plus I would think that there should be consultant services on a consulting basis on the part of a responsible property owner that is responsible that can add advice and counsel to this particular committee because I think that there are very many responsible people owning property but it's people that are irresponsible that are causing problems within every neighborhood of this City, they buy property but they don't ensure that the people that are going to be renting are properly safeguarded. You go by different buildings and doors are open, windows are open...people just don't take care of properties that landlords allow to rent and these people are left sort of on their own. As long as certain irresponsible people who own properties don't ensure that renters are going to be the proper kind of people then the whole neighborhood deteriorates and we've heard this repeatedly. Absentee property owners are a major problem, a major problem in this City. But, to indite all no but there are certain areas of the City and the third point is number 6. I had a substation on Wilson Street and that substation now because of problems was moved to Maple Street, however, the area on Wilson Street had a shooting and about two weeks later there were shots fired on Howe Street and I think that's a concern that obviously should be addressed as well. When we start saying substations it was there for three or four years and it was manned initially by different constituents in Ward 7 and over the course of time it became a problem as Sgt. Kincaid said to find someone to do it but I think that there should be some concern given to other areas of the City other than just the focus on one section because I'm sure that other Aldermen here have problems in their wards but I know that when we start categorizing wards there have been different identifiable problems in Ward 7 and I don't want my constituents to feel that they are going to be left without adequate kind of protection. But, I think that substations if possible should be established in different parts of the City and in Ward 7 should be a consideration as well. Thank you.

Chief Jaskolka stated Deputy Chief Leidemer could address that.

Deputy Chief Leidemer stated most of what I would have or could have spoken to has already been addressed by the Mayor and the Chief and Captain Lessard but you made a point about not concentrating or focusing on one area of the City. What I can tell you and

perhaps speaking to your point might help allay some of the fears of your constituents as well as others in the City that in May our department implemented a Preventative Policing Plan. Preventative Policing is similar to but not the same as Compstat. In lieu of the computer-generated information or computer coordinated information that Compstat relies on we rely on exchange of information between units and personnel. Weekly I hold meetings with the Supervisors of Investigations, Special Investigations, Community Police, the Supervisor that oversees the School Resource Officers, Sgt. Kincaid obviously is a big participant in that with the Community Police Unit as well as our Gang Intelligence Officer. The reason I bring that up is in addition to having that meeting to share information that provides us an opportunity to assess what's going on in the City both last week and what we're seeing or predict what will happen next week. I say predict based on the fact that it's also brought us closer to the Special Investigations Unit and some of the initiatives that they have. Essentially in doing that allows me to dedicate our resources where they're needed. As a result of that meeting I can put the cops where they're needed be it the west side...we certainly dedicated a great deal of resources to your ward when we had some issues up on Somerville Street and on Wilson Street and that plan allows us to do that. In addition to the weekly meetings because of some of the issues I've identified we had a supervisor temporarily change his hours from working four to twelve to working sixty-thirty at night till three o'clock in the morning. The reason we did that is to provide strong supervision where...not that the officers needed that strong supervision but it allows that sergeant to make...he has the authority to make decisions and dedicate resources based on real time information and we thought that that is not only pretty successful we found that it's able to juggle our resources in different parts of the City. The patrols themselves have resulted in a number of arrests, motor vehicle summonses, City Ordinance summonses, but they've also had some concentration on quality of life issues. We've dedicated...there's times...different days of the week, different hours of the night and early morning we have officers go out and their directed to park their cars and walk in tandems or bike patrols and patrol different parts of the City...we've towed vehicles, we've had loud music complaints, we stopped in at the stores, we stopped in at some of the places where people come out on their porches and have some interaction with them and that's just some of the things that we've done as an initiative based on some of the things that we've identified and we think that's been successful and not only has it been successful it's allowed us to do it in different parts of the City not just concentrating on one area.

Mayor Guinta stated starting when in late April, early May.

Deputy Chief Leidemer replied I started exploring it, researching it, reading about it in April and we implemented it the first week of May.

Mayor Guinta stated regarding the point about item 2 in reactivating the Neighborhood Enhancement Team I think you make a good point. There's two components. One component of a team actually going out into the field into the City and the second component

I think that you talked about which is a reporting mechanism to determine what changes policy-wise need to be made to support the team going out into the neighborhoods to address some of those issues.

Alderman Forest stated actually I just wanted to make a comment to Alderman Lopez's statement earlier and I guess the question that Alderman Gatsas about why he wasn't invited. Apparently, the concerns at the time were a lot of the news media reports...the west side had had the five shootings in a row, constituents on the west side were concerned as constituents were concerned when we were having problems with the Omega Club a year or so ago. Senator D'Allesandro represents the west side constituents. He had concerns from his constituents so he sent the west side Aldermen a letter that he wanted to meet and address some concerns and offer some assistance from the State and his help and that is why the meeting was attended. Unfortunately, I guess four of us were on the same committee.

Alderman Gatsas stated just a clarification for Alderman Forest. I think you live in Ward 12 and this Senator represents Ward 12 and that's on the west side, I believe. Thank you.

Alderman Thibault stated first of all, your Honor, I would just like to say that I have been here a while and I've seen the Police Department and their staff here many, many times and several other Aldermen that are on this Board have been here a while, your Honor, and I don't believe that there's an Alderman on this Board or any other Board that I know of that would go against what the Police Department has tried to do. I think you, your Honor, have hit a point and I believe that Alderman Lopez has also hit a point and Chief that you need community involvement you can't do this alone. There's no way it can ever be done by just the Police Department. Just today I talked to the Chief about hot spots that I feel are there in my area and what I thought of some of those areas and how we should handle some of them and for no other reason but I wanted the Chief to get to know that. We've had a few problems on the west side, yes. In 150-200 years yes this is probably the first or second time that we've had a problem on the west side. Why is everybody putting and concentrating on the west side. We've had problems all over this City. If we don't support the Police Department by us going out and I do, your Honor, many times go out at night an hour, an hour-and-a-half on a corner that I think is a trouble spot and I let the Chief know about what I feel is a problem. I'm not saying that every Alderman has to do that but everybody has to get involved...the constituents as well as us. I believe that the Police Department has done an exemplary job, your Honor. To control the City with the growth that has happened over the last 25 years it is unbelievable that anyone would think that these guys have not done their jobs...they've done more than their jobs. What they do need and what I think I heard the cry out tonight from you as well as a few other people is that they need to have everybody get involved into what's happening here and I for one want the Chief to know and everybody else whatever you need from me I'll be there. Thank you.

Alderman Roy stated I'd like to thank the Chief and the Deputies for coming in front of us tonight. I would like much like the Chair of Public Safety Committee, I would like all correspondence handed out this evening referred to Public Safety. So, if that needs to be done in a motion at some point this evening, I'd appreciate that. If we could also get a copy of Captain Lessard's statistics...the numbers were fascinating but as you know them in and out it would be great if we could get those. Personally, when I hear the Chief say that the New England statistic is 2.7 per thousand it doesn't take quick math to come up with a number of 324 officers to meet what's an average a statistic. So, I find myself for the third year sitting here dismayed that when we talked about 215 there is somewhat of a satisfaction in a number of 225. It won't make me popular with the taxpayer by saying that. It won't make me popular saying that we need 235 or 250 but what I do know with my real estate background is that even a tenth of a percent drop in our tax base is much higher than a twenty or thirty officer increase. So, while the State mandates...I passed around a letter with a number of suggestions that I've heard from other Aldermen and constituents and my own thoughts we currently have 22 people whether it be training or light duty or out of the active patrol so out of our 215 the number's really 193. I would ask the Board that we not look at a number of adding 10 but of adding 20 or 25. It doesn't mean the Chief has to hire them, it doesn't mean he has to fill every position but as people go on light duty or as he gets more classes I think it's prudent for this Board to give him the leeway to...193, 190 depending on who gets hurt. Officers are in danger every time they go to work. They get hurt, they need time off and for us to sit back and be content with numbers I think is not the right direction for this Board to go. That being said I would definitely support a number more in the 235 range which, I believe was the number said during the budget sessions. So, that being said we do have money in different coffers for economic development and I would hate to see a one or two year lag of response by this Board based on financial pressures...not put police on the street that will help us in the next five years when it comes to maintaining our economic development and our tax base. So, there are funds out there that will not impact the taxpayer directly that can help us beef up the department. One other thing that I did want to bring if we could pass this whole letter into Public Safety...I'm sure we'll have quite a few conversations but the need for as Alderman Lopez has spoken about many times the nationwide search for bilingual officers. Two things that I've realized is we are competitive in our pay and we do look for certified officers and get them right out on the street. But, we need to give our officers that are here a reason to stay and the officers that are looking that should make a change from possibly a New York or a New Jersey to come to New Hampshire and have a better quality of life we need to give them a reason and that is why I'd be asking that in Public Safety or at the full Board that we appropriate some funds out of our one time revenue account to possibly do a nationwide search for certified bilingual officers that can come to Manchester, we can give them incentives of moving or some type of housing or some type of assistance, find it attractive. It's done in the private sector we should be doing it here. We have a need and we should step up to the plate financially. That being said I'd also like to propose that the Chief and the administration look into a gun buyback program. It's been done successfully in other communities and as the Deputy Chief

said to me yesterday the people who have the weapons out there just want cash whether it's for food or their next fix we have a drug problem and if we can get them off the streets they're less likely to get shot in some altercation late at night on our minimally staffed shifts. So, I'd ask the Chief to look at that as well as a standard operating procedure to see if there's some way we can maximize the time on the street of our police officers. We seem to be reactionary with some of our motor vehicle incidents and I would just ask if there is a way we can keep our patrol officers on the street versus doing paperwork this Alderman would definitely support that. So, that being said, I'd ask that all correspondence including the letter from Eric Sawyer this evening be referred to Public Safety.

Alderman Duval stated it's a difficult issue to get our arms around for sure as a community and as a new member of this Board I'm just learning now the complications that go along in trying to apply fixes to some of the problems we have at the ward level. Dana Langton of your department has been most helpful in working with me and trying to organize smaller groups of ward resident meetings to try to respond to some of those concerns from prostitution to allegations of drug dealings going on in neighborhoods...recently I met with Ash Street residents to address serious problems they have with high school students from Central High School during the opening of school and during the close of school and while they may appear to some to be relatively insignificant in comparison to other more serious and more pressing problems with crime throughout the City to those residents on Ash Street they're very, very important. Without sounding critical, Chief and members of the Police Department here tonight and I certainly don't want to come across that way but let me just report to you some of the things that have been mentioned to me at some of those meetings in the event that perhaps they didn't make it past Sgt. Kincaid. I have taken a number of calls from residents and I put myself in a position of access 24 hours-a-day and seven days-a-week and I find residents complaining that they call the Police Department and the phone rings and rings and rings and rings or they get put on hold for a very long period of time and again I mention that not to be overly critical but to work with you in trying to find a solution so that the Police Department at least is accessible to the common citizenry of Manchester and so they don't have to go through an Alderman if they can't get a hold of one to get their grievance responded to.

Chief Jaskolka stated if I may I'd like to address the phone call issue. Alderman Garrity had asked about that once before and I had the telecommunications manager do a survey. To give you some idea of the amount of calls that come into the Manchester Police Department I did a survey from June 1st to June 30th and we had 59,497 incoming calls or 1,983 calls a day...20,278 outgoing calls for the month or 676 for the day. The Communications Division itself that handles the dispatches to units during that time period out of those 59,000 took 33,731 calls or 1,124 calls a day with 4,190 outgoing or 139 per day. Alderman, it's not excuse for the phone not being answered but that's a tremendous amount of phone calls coming in and I don't have a bank of operators answering the phone. I know it's not an excuse but there are a tremendous amount of calls that come into the Police Department.

Alderman Duval stated I understand that and I understand what you're saying it's very factual and I think it's important for the community to understand that as well. So, the folks that are hearing that response tonight at home I think can have a better understanding of that and that's good information to hear from you. And, again, I have to apologize because I'm relatively new to this but it just seems to me that and I'm sure that you share my concern that when a resident calls the Police Department they have to have some confidence that there is going to be some kind of response in addition to which...and, again I'm just sharing with you complaints that are made to me routinely by residents.

Chief Jaskolka stated I'm not using that as an excuse.

Mayor Guinta stated did you say...to round the number 60,000 incoming phone calls.

Chief Jaskolka stated 60,000 incoming calls in the month of June.

Mayor Guinta stated that's more than half the City just to give a perspective. I've talked to the Chief about this issue as well because I've heard it from Aldermen expressing concern and I think my point would be and I think we all agree that...I wasn't aware of that statistic...60,000 calls in one month.

Alderman Duval stated I think it's good that the residents of Manchester hear this.

Mayor Guinta stated exactly. I think part of the thing that we need to do is when we respond to concerns of constituents to also provide factual information as to the amount of work that the department is doing and I think people probably would appreciate knowing that for a one-month period there were 60,000 calls. What was the outgoing number...33,000.

Chief Jaskolka stated those aren't emergency calls those are general incoming calls...911 is a different calling system and there are times when that gets so backed up that the Fire Department has actually had to answer our 911 calls and then call over. Secondly, a lot of people complain and I'm sure you've gotten the complaints, Alderman, about getting the automatic voice mail. We've changed that system once and we're in the process of changing it again to try to make it even more user friendly so that they'll know exactly what numbers to push. If they really need to talk to a person what numbers they need to push in order to get there. It's kind of a lengthy as most of them are a lengthy voice mail and we're trying to change that to shorten that and actually get them in touch with the person quicker than what they're able to do now.

Alderman Duval stated which sort of segways into my next line of questioning and it relates to this question and I've heard it repeated a number of times particularly through the budget process this year. The question of the current level of officers and it's been raised here

tonight and I think as one Alderman it would be nice to know what that number is and I know it's a moving target but what measures are currently in place to get to the department's current complement of 215 and why should we be even considering getting over that current complement if we can't even meet that number currently? So, is it a realistic goal to get to an even higher number when we can't even satisfy the current level of 215 and from what I understand and speaking with veteran Aldermen of this Board it's been perhaps a very long time since we've been able to get to that number for the department. Let me just take a step back...I need to hear from you, Chief, maybe in days to come and hopefully we can get there but getting back to this issue of calls not being able to be answered because of the influx of calls if for some reason your department is not being given adequate staff to answer those calls then we need to know about it and if there needs to be a change at the Police Department with the way things are handled then I think you ought to just get to us with a proposal so that the Manchester residents can get that assurance that can be responded to and then I have a follow up after you answer the question of complement...on the complement level because again I think I still don't have the answer and if you tell me it's going to be coming in days and weeks to come that's fine.

Chief Jaskolka stated our hiring process for certified officers is on-going. If you're a certified police officer and you work for another police department you can apply at any time to Human Resources and we'll put you into Human Resources and we'll put you into the background process. We bring you in for a physical agility and an oral board. If you get through the two of those and then we'll put you into the background process. We have scheduled another police test September 18th for non-certified police officers. Again, the economy as it is people aren't getting into law enforcement...they don't want to work nights, they don't want to work weekends, they don't want to work the long hours or whatever is not attracting people to police work right now...that's not a problem in Manchester...that's pretty much nationwide. We were very lucky last time we were looking for 13 police officers, we got 12. As hard as we tried we couldn't find that thirteenth police officer.

Alderman Duval stated in order to respond to what residents called and asked and people that ask me along the way and I really don't have an answer for them. When I was growing up on the west side, not too many years ago, when Deputy Chief Leidemer was just a rookie...I recall Officer Paul Beauchemin and I bring up his name because I remember Officer Paul Beauchemin was known on the west side and he knew me and knew all my friends and new where everyone was I think at every waking minute of the day and it speaks to a different time in Manchester's past and the way we used to a different time in Manchester's past and the way we used to police in Manchester but are walking beats completely a thing of the past now...is that sort of finished, they just don't serve the purpose anymore because I can tell you that one afternoon I called the Police Department on a noise complaint in the inner-city near St. Anne's Church and I went down myself because the resident asked me to go down and was there in a few minutes and at the same time I was arriving two officers on bicycles were already on the scene responding to the noise complaint...I was thoroughly impressed

and it was kind of interesting that they were able to respond that quickly...maybe they were right there when they got the call I'm not sure but it just impressed, I think, the neighborhood that these two officers on bicycles were there and it just gave a much different feel than an officer pulling up in a cruiser and I remember almost with fondness the officers that used to walk patrol on Bremer Street and Kelley Street and the west side as I'm sure Deputy Chief Leidemer recalls and they knew what was going on and they were at the pulse of what was going on and I think in large part because they were right there on foot and I'm just curious as to what the history of that was and why it doesn't work today.

Chief Jaskolka stated I agree with you. I walked the beat when I came on. I think all of us sitting at this table probably did and I was hired with seven other police officers and we were told you were going to walk a beat and I walked over in the Granite Square area for a while and then I walked down around Lake Avenue and that area and I spent more time there and I really go to know everybody. You go to a domestic and you knew who the husband was and you were friends with them and you took him and sent him and got a coffee, it wasn't a mandatory arrest back then. Unfortunately, today if we had the manpower we would probably have some walking routes but they're very ineffective patrol as far as response time...they can't get to a call...one of the reasons we went to bicycles...bicycles sometimes can get to a call quicker than a cruiser, they can get through traffic quicker than a cruiser, they can get through yards, they can get through alleys and the areas where the bikes patrol in most cases they're going to be in a cruiser to a call. They're also more available to people, people can come up to the guys on the bicycles...guys and girls on the bicycles and talk to them because they're out in the neighborhoods and basically it's a mobile walking route. They have more mobility, they can get farther...a walking route may be good for four or five blocks...a bicycle can get 8, 10, 12, 14 blocks and sometimes even beat the cruiser because of the paths that they can take.

Alderman Duval asked is it possible in responding to areas that are congested like the areas around Central High School to get increased activity during the opening of school and closing of school and I think if we were able to accomplish that we'd meet a lot of the problems that we have stemming from the overcrowded increased activity during those times of the day and I will close with that if you can respond.

Chief Jaskolka stated at the beginning and end of school we have increased patrols more so than usual. During the normal day the Community Police Officers on the bicycles are assigned a different school especially the Central School area where they're supposed to be there when the school opens and when it closes for added patrol. The cruiser in the area is supposed to be there and obviously the SRO should be outside at that point unless he's involved in some type of an investigation inside the school itself.

Alderman Gatsas stated Chief I applaud you and your 215 officers on the streets. I think you folks do a great job but I think that we need to find a way to get you more tools to certainly

protect the people of Manchester. You have three shifts...8-to-4, 4-to-12, 12-to-8...how many officers do you have on each one of those shifts?

Chief Jaskolka replied with all due respect Alderman that's an operational/tactical question and I normally don't respond to that in public. I'd be glad to discuss that with you otherwise. We really don't like the bad guys to know what we have where and with the six thirty at night till three in the morning we actually have a fourth shift but that's not as manned as heavy as the other ones.

Alderman Gatsas stated okay I guess we're going to have to do this behind some closed doors because I think those are pertinent questions. For us to give you the tools to actually get into it and I think the next question I have is that the overtime budget that was in your budget varies somewhere between what the Mayor requested and what the department requested was somewhere between \$850,000 and \$920,000. If I add the \$1.3 million that is an additional funding from other grants that brings us to somewhere about \$2.2 million. Now, I guess my question is I assume the federal grants had come in and correct me if I'm wrong must be applied to overtime.

Chief Jaskolka stated that's correct...those are all specialized patrols that we wouldn't normally have if we didn't have the federal funding.

Alderman Gatsas stated thank you. The daily details that are available to the officers directing traffic because somebody's opened a sewer line...those are additional funds and how many dollars are included in those dollars?

Chief Jaskolka asked included in the federal grants?

Alderman Gatsas replied no, no...if somebody's directing traffic on Elm Street because there's a crane in the street and it's a special detail that's paid by a contractor how many dollars does that include? It's not budgeted and it's not revenue and I think those are paid directly to the officer.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated it's paid by the vendor.

Alderman Gatsas stated I understand that's paid by the vendor, how many dollars is that?

Deputy Chief Simmons replied I don't have a direct number as to how much we take in in the course of a year in detail amounts of money. It is separate obviously...as you know it's paid by the vendor and there's a separate amount of money separate from our grant funding and separate from our budgeted money. I can get you that number I just don't have that here tonight.

Alderman Gatsas stated it needs to be figured in here so that you have an allocation of where you are with synergies versus with overtime dollars because I think that during the budget process over the last six years I think you remember that Chief Kane we kept talking about overtime dollars and isn't it more effective to hire full-time officers because I'm looking at \$2.2 million in overtime dollars. So, I guess my next question is the Reserve Offices...what is the salary for Reserve Officers?

Deputy Chief Simmons replied a Reserve Officer currently makes in FY07 he will make \$19.03 an hour working directly for the Police Department. In the course of that he works two 4-hour shifts per month so he works for 12 months...total cost is about \$1,800.

Alderman Gatsas stated let's do this again, slowly.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated \$19.03 per hour.

Alderman Gatsas asked how many hours of work?

Deputy Chief Simmons replied he works a 4-hour shift twice-a-month.

Alderman Gatsas stated so that's a total of 8 hours a month.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated correct.

Alderman Gatsas stated so if I take the 8 hours-a-month times the 20 officers that 160 hours-a-month...if I multiply that by 12 and divide it by 52 it's roughly 36 hours-a-week. So, if I said to you let's hire one full-time officer that gives you 40 hours and increase the amount of money or hire more officers because I'm looking at those hours...there has to be a justification of where we're going because I don't think that 20 Reserve Officers is going to lighten your load because that's 36 hours-a-week. Now, if you said to me that those Reserve Officers and maybe what we need to do is talk to the District Court to get some sort of ability to get an officer to get all his court time allocated at the same time instead of having to go in five different days sometimes and I don't know if that happens and if it does then the overtime amount that he's being paid is for what a 4-hour minimum.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated that's correct.

Alderman Gatsas stated that's overtime and he may not even have the case heard.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated that's correct. What you refer to though I understand what you're suggesting here and that is done on a regular basis. They try to coordinate sometimes up to three cases per day for an officer if they have an idea that that is going to occur and the officer's already scheduled for one they make efforts to try to schedule them for more than

one case in a day. So, there are efforts in that regard to do that. With that also to try to make course savings is our Mediation Program and our Change of Plea Program which we try to negotiate, we meet with people once-a-month, we send out correspondence and ask them to meet for a change of pleas, etc. We've had considerable savings in that regard as well. So, we understand that is one of our big issues with overtime is the court costs and we are trying to streamline that as best as possible.

Alderman Gatsas asked tell me what a reserve officer does in that 4-hour shift.

Deputy Chief Simmons replied currently a Reserve Officer as we use them now is strictly utilized to serve subpoenas. They subpoenas and juvenile petitions...that takes away some of the burden of the street officer having to make sometimes repeated calls to an address to serve a subpoena and it also creates a better, it makes it a little more efficient because the Reserve Officer who doesn't have the responsibility of handling other calls is able to hit on a house three, four times if no ones homes to try and make an effort to serve that subpoena. That is what we strictly utilize them for. Secondary, they are there occasionally for a backup if they're needed and lastly they fill in some of our extra detail slots when those are open during the course of the summer.

Alderman Gatsas asked how many subpoenas do you serve a month, a week?

Deputy Chief Simmons replied I couldn't give you an answer on that right now...how many they serve per week. I would say our Reserves probably average on a 4-hour shift they probably average 20 subpoenas that they serve during their 4-hour shift.

Alderman Gatsas stated it could be the same one he missed last week or went four times to the same.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated it could but what we will do with the is we try to give them the more time sensitive subpoenas and in particular the juvenile petitions have to be served within a short period of time so we give them those time sensitive...so most often it's fresh subpoenas and juvenile petitions.

Alderman Gatsas asked how many subpoenas do officers serve on a weekly basis?

Deputy Chief Simmons replied I don't have that number available tonight but we could certainly try to get that for you. I will tell you it's a big initiative on our part. We have several amount of subpoenas that need to be served. We try to change the program on a regular basis so we know exactly who's serving subpoenas, where the problems lie as to why a subpoena sometimes aren't served. We do get occasional issues with the court because subpoenas aren't served in a timely fashion.

Alderman Gatsas asked isn't there an ability to outsource serving subpoenas?

Deputy Chief Simmons replied I believe there would be. I believe the Sheriff's office actually does something along those lines where they actually pay a Sheriff's Deputy to go out and serve subpoenas, I believe.

Alderman Gatsas asked do we know what they get paid?

Deputy Chief Simmons replied I do not know. I'm guessing but I think it's like \$50 a day or they get paid per service of subpoena I'm not sure which.

Alderman Gatsas stated aren't all of those things that we should be looking at...one to outsource things that are important to your department but aren't really a situation that is taking care of more police officers on the streets.

Mayor Guinta stated direct safety impact.

Alderman Gatsas stated I'm trying to be kind and look for the right words, your Honor...thanks, that's a good word I'll take that one. I'm looking at those outsourcing things that we could do and again I come back to the \$2.2 million in overtime...that's a high number, that's an extremely high number. We probably, in that number, could hire ten full-time officers and not affect the budget because it's overtime dollars. So, you're really getting 1.5 times the bang for the buck on that number. I'm just doing quick math and I could be wrong but I just took the total grants that you get which are about \$1.3 and \$900,000 in overtime that's in the budget...I add those two together and it's \$2.2 million. So, I say what's the starting pay of the salary of an officer.

Deputy Chief Simmons replied the starting pay is \$39,500 with benefits it would be about \$50,000.

Alderman Gatsas stated so with \$50,000 and you've got \$1.3 million that's other allocated dollars...that's somewhere in the vicinity of 30 new police officers. So I'm just trying to say why aren't we doing that, why aren't we looking at that because there's no question that you need more police officers that you can allocate to the streets to reduce crime so that you're more visible. I'm sure that the call that comes from the inner-city and somebody calls about something in the north end sometimes the reaction to the north end is a little different because you've got a serious problem in the inner-city and I think as we were coming in I asked the captain of the shootings that we've had how many shootings that we've had dealt with illegal aliens...how many of those people were illegal aliens...illegal. Does anybody have that answer? I know he's got the answer because he gave it to me.

Captain Lessard stated we did discuss this before. I can tell you that one incident on Belmont and Massabesic Streets area involved a gentleman who was an illegal alien and we had determined that he was an illegal alien...that's one for sure but I don't know of any others.

Alderman Gatsas stated of the other crimes that we consider major crimes in the City how many of those crimes are being committed by illegal aliens?

Captain Lessard replied I don't have that answer, Sir.

Alderman Gatsas stated I can only tell you that we're looking at justification of absentee landlords and a bunch of other things. There was an article in the paper probably two-and-a-half weeks ago about what communities in different parts of the country are doing. There's a community in Pennsylvania that invokes a \$2,500 fine to a landlord that rents to an illegal alien. So, I think that there are things that are out there that there's no question that when you look at \$2.2 million and we're talking about how we make this City safer 30 other police officers out there make the City safer because the response time from officers having to leave the north end because it's quieter up at North Gate Road than it is on Lake Avenue there's no question about that but I think that when somebody has an issue on North Gate Road the response shouldn't be an answer of we're down on Lake Avenue and we'll get to you when we can get to you. But, 30 officers more I think even in the quiet of the details that you have are going to give you that opportunity.

Alderman Osborne stated I just want to make a general comment again on...where are all these people or persons who are arrested...where do they live, where do they come from...out-of-town, Manchester.

Deputy Chief Leidemer replied I think if you're referring to the most recent arrests and suspects and some of the crimes.

Alderman Osborne stated in general.

Deputy Chief Leidemer stated in general they have Manchester addresses. Is it a fact that they have a connection to the community, they're raised here or employed here perhaps not but when they're arrested at the time that they're processed they most often come up with a Manchester address. That doesn't necessitate that they're part of the community per se they just happen to be residing.

Mayor Guinta interjected there is a transient population.

Deputy Chief Leidemer stated Alderman Gatsas referred to the illegal alien that was arrested for and he listed the apartment where it took place as his address but we don't have any

documentation or any evidence to support the fact that he was living there or had been there for some time. There's no easy answer to that.

Alderman Osborne stated all I'm trying to get at is I've lived in Manchester all of my life...I've lived in Ward 5 for 66 years so I know what the transition is in that ward and what I have is a lot of absentee landlords and what causes that is every time I have a complaint, every time I have an ordinance to tend to and we have to get a hold of the landlord he's down in Georgia, Florida, Arizona and it takes forever to get to this. What I'm trying to get at is that I think this is the root of the whole thing. They live in Manchester, the apartments are very expensive in my ward for what they're getting...they live 50 to a tub, okay. So, what I'm trying to say here is that we have to have some sort of...I'm talking in general I'm not talking about the Police Department right now or anything...I'm just talking in general here. We have to have some sort of accountability with the landlords because it's all greed today...you get the money, you don't care how many people you put in the apartment as long as you get your money nothing else matters. So, what I'd like to do again is get this and talk about it in my committee. Thank you very much.

Deputy Chief Leidemer stated if I could add to that on Friday we met with the Mayor and his staff and administration met with the County Attorney and part of our discussion with her was asking her to help us research laws that not only hold the landlords you reference...Georgia, New York, Connecticut...hold those people responsible but also research if there's applicable law that would hold the management companies for these properties responsible and accountable. And, we had that discussion Friday and the County Attorney's on board with helping us but that too is going to take some time but that falls back to the initiative with the Neighborhood Enhancement Team.

Alderman Osborne stated at least I think we're getting at the roots here.

Alderman Roy stated thank you for letting me interject, Mayor. One of the articles and we have gotten a lot of information as Aldermen from our local paper. The term "absentee landlord" some real estate owners that don't live in their buildings in the City took offense to the fact that this Board was referring to people as absentee landlords. I think there's a far cry from not only your owner-occupied buildings but your buildings owned by people who are vested in the community. Whether they have maintenance crews and on-site management or people working in the area to not only maintain their building but rent to people that should be rented to and get background checks and credit reports. So, I think lumping every landlord that doesn't live in their building into the category of absentee landlord shouldn't be done by this Board or other outlets of public information. We should be looking at those landlords as Deputy Chief Leidemer just said that don't maintain their buildings, that don't care, that are just out for the quick dollar. Just because a landlord doesn't live in their building does not make them a bad person or a bad landlord it just means that they've chosen to live elsewhere and possibly maintain and perhaps have a number of properties that are

good properties throughout the City. We can't fault every landlord but let's single out and look at those that can be worked with and I think that's what the Deputy was getting to.

Alderman Osborne stated I'd like to rebut to that...I didn't mean it that way, Alderman, trust me.

Alderman Roy stated I know actually that response was more for what's been in the paper.

Alderman Osborne stated what I'm trying to say also if everybody that owned property lived in it you wouldn't have 75% of the problems you have here in Manchester. I'm not saying everybody is bad but I'm just saying all the ones that I've dealt with...not all of them but nine-tenths of them in my ward they live out-of-town...that's the way it is. We had Spruce Street done with the new lights and curbings and sidewalks and all and all the lettering that I got sent to these landlords I'd say 80% of them were out-of-town. So, this is the thing with my ward. I'm not saying Ward 1 or 2 or everybody's else ward. I think a lot of other wards have the same problem even the west side but this is what has got to be attacked. There's no question in my mind.

Alderman O'Neil stated I lived an incident of shots fired in the City and I don't believe there was an arrest made but I feel very comfortable that the Police Department knows who did it and more importantly the person who fired the shots knows the Police Department knows he did it. I can tell you we've not had a repeat incident with it. It's a hard case for them to prove so I applaud them for that and I don't believe it was involving illegal aliens and we don't need to go that that's the cause of the problem here. I would like to break my questions into two points and I'd like to start short-term to the Chief or anyone else that would like to answer this. We have about two to three months of still good weather and once it starts to get cold generally speaking a lot of the street level activity will cease for a little bit of time...it will go inside but they'll be a reduction in street level illegal activity. What can we do in the short-term? I've heard the Mayor announce the high visibility and high intensity patrols. Are there funds that we can commit to you now to get more people officers out there...probably not on the day shift but on the two other shifts...maybe the shift you refer to as the jeep shift to make the lives for the people that want to do illegal acts in this City miserable for the next two or three months? Can we commit additional funds to you today to do that? Is it necessary?

Chief Jaskolka replied obviously I think the U. S. Attorney but it the best when he gave his conference yesterday that the more police officers that are out on the street the more difficult it is for criminals to commit crimes. If we have a bigger presence, if we make life miserable for them they're going to go away. That's what happened basically back in the 90's when we combined with the citizens and we put out patrols...if you remember back then we have 5, 6 guys in the cars and we were going corner-to-corner, identifying these people, moving them on and coming back and moving them again.

Alderman O'Neil asked Chief is there a number to do that for the next two or three months?
Is there a dollar amount that we could commit to?

Chief Jaskolka replied I don't have any figures with me to do that tonight. We can definitely get you figures.

Alderman O'Neil stated this can't wait till the full Board meetings in September. The clock is ticking for the month of August and I stand ready to commit funds tonight. I've heard from enough people. The people in Manchester are not scared but they're concerned about what's going on in these pockets around the City. Before we break tonight maybe we can have that discussion about committing some funds to pay overtime to get more officers on the street immediately for the next two or three months...that's my short-term solution. I'd like to now go into the ten points that the Mayor spoke about and some of these questions the Mayor may have to answer, your Honor. I don't think that we can sit here tonight and try to solve whether 215, 225, 235 is the right number. I think we all can commit that we need more people officers. Something in the long-term that needs to be done is we need to...we were able to do it for a long time here. We were able to time hiring in the academy so that the academy...a large group always seemed to come out of the academy in the springtime and were available June 1st, June 15th...somewhere around that. We now have a group at the Academy today of 12...in-house academy...so, what can we do and it may not be exclusively the Police Department's issue there could be something we could do on the HR side. What can we do so that when we come into the high activity time of the year which is spring, summer and early fall we have as high a number of police officers...not at the academy, not in-house training but actually on the street working and you don't need to answer that tonight but I think it's something you need to look at. The Police Department was very successful at that for a very long time.

Chief Jaskolka replied that's if we're able to hire late summer, early fall and that's going to get them out on the street, on their own come springtime and summer. Part of the problem is as we just got a notification from Police Standards and Training Council that they're going to start restricting the number of people in the academies to the point where if we want to put 10 or 12 people...we've been pretty successful getting large numbers into the academy but they may...if other departments are bringing in numbers or if they're filling their academy they may start doing that by lottery so we may end up hiring somebody with the anticipation that they're going to go to the Police Academy two, three months after we get them and we can't get them in so then we have them for that 11-12 weeks before we can get them into the academy.

Alderman O'Neil interjected I hope my former colleague from the Senate just heard that. Senator Gatsas are you hearing this one.

Alderman Gatsas replied I heard you.

Alderman O'Neil stated I would hope that's not going to restrict communities as the number of people that we can get into the academy and it's going to be by lottery. If that's the case then the state needs to allow us to do our own academy which they don't do currently...that sounds like a bureaucracy...I'm not blaming you I'm hoping it's something you can look into and see what can be done to correct that. So, that's something I think we need to look at...what can we do a better job at having police officers back from the academy late spring so that they're available. The last few years we've gotten a little off track on that and I think it's just the hiring process. I think you've tested more often than you have in the past so that's something to consider.

Deputy Chief Leidemer stated the testing we'll be doing in August those will obviously be street ready by next summer, next spring.

Alderman O'Neil stated item 2 regarding the Neighborhood Enhancement Team, your Honor, I applaud you for reactivating that. The one question I have is we need to put someone from some department in charge to make sure that it's actually carried out and it doesn't become a bureaucratic thing in the City of Manchester. It was effective in the 90's, I don't remember who led the effort but I think in your consideration in putting it together it has to be somebody strong and we have to make sure there's commitment from all the departments. I know we have some city-wide initiatives not as serious as this and you read the minutes and half the people don't show up at the meetings. So, I think that's something you have to greatly consider is who leads it on behalf of the City. I think reinstating the School Resource Officers at the middle schools is critical. Your Honor, are you trying to get the School Board to act on it that we may see that by September or October?

Mayor Guinta replied I spoke with the School Administration and I asked them to identify funds to reinstate the SRO's. They got back to me and they said they identified some potential savings for FY07 in their energy costs and feel that because they're going to see some reductions from PSNH they can utilize those funds. They're suggestion to me at this point was to bring them in back over time. I think the goal here is to try to work with them to bring them back as quickly, as humanly possible because I think it's clear from the department how important Resource Officers are. Almost half of the number of cases come from the SRO's. So, that's a pretty significant figure.

Alderman O'Neil stated I don't understand why it's not a priority for the School District. You would think it would be a priority.

Mayor Guinta stated I think after having this discussion I would hope it will be for the School Board. I think the administration has now changed their mind and I would ask every

Alderman to call and speak with their School Board member and reiterate the importance of restoring SRO's.

Alderman O'Neil interjected your Honor, not to cut you off but I think that's similar to the DARE Program. I've heard more people have become more aware recently that there isn't a DARE Program and they're actually shocked by that, to be honest with you. And, I don't know that you can put statistical data to show their success. I guess when I look that young people have relationships with police officers that's success to me...not crime statistics.

Mayor Guinta stated I think the department would agree. Prevention statistics are very challenging to quantify.

Alderman O'Neil stated I hope it's not going to be statistically placed and I know we had the gang part of that curriculum and I think the same officers did gang education and the middle schools they may have also been Officer Friendly with the elementary schools...a very, very successful program and I think that's something we need to look at.

Mayor Guinta stated I do think, Alderman, just to reiterate that the SRO's would represent an important policy change that can happen almost immediately if we worked collectively with the School Board to identify a way to get them on board as quickly as possible.

Alderman O'Neil stated I think that's why when we started to have these discussions last week and Alderman Shea, I think, was right on that this is not just a law enforcement issue. We need everybody within City government and beyond City government to be involved to solve this problem and that includes the School District.

Mayor Guinta stated and it brings up the important point of prevention and how to stop the occurrences from happening in the first place and that's a whole entire separate discussion in and of itself. But, I think a critical component is looking at the SRO's and how they integrate with the Police Department and the schools. How we can start to bring OYS back into the mix again and see some of the programmatic demands that I think we would hear that are necessary after school to start committing more time and effort and energy to try to identify those preventative measures. I believe in that approach, I believe in the Community Policing approach, I believe in the preventative approach...this today I think is focusing on some of the larger issues that are happening and what can we do with some immediacy to send a message and to see an immediate reduction in the criminal activity and subsequently some arrests and some jail time. I think that's a discussion that has to happen, I think the immediate one that we can have an impact on is the SRO's...we've got a School Board meeting next week. So, I would again encourage you to call your School Board member and have the discussion about it because the administration has stepped up and said we've identified some money, let's see if they can find a little bit more and get these SRO's get back into the schools immediately.

Alderman O'Neil stated if I can touch upon a few of the other bullets. Regarding the police substations...I think we need to...I do think they are an effective tool. I think we should look at somehow trying to restore one and Alderman Shea brought up the Wilson Street area, we should not go the route that almost happened on Maple Street of the trailers similar to what's at Sweeney Park...that doesn't show a commitment as far as I'm concerned, it's like parking a construction trailer out for a short time. I think as we move forward we need to look at opportunities, maybe tie it in with a project...the Manchester Housing and Redevelopment Authority, maybe tie it in with a project Neighborhood Housing Services may be doing...many communities have tied it into other...somebody mentioned should be...it may have been Alderman Lopez had mentioned this to me...maybe we should do something more permanent at the West Side Library and the Cashin Center as a community police station and I think we need to find permanent homes and expand them a little bit, so I encourage that. We lost a great asset in Marty Boisvert who was the grant writer for years and he brought in more money at the Police Department...I don't know how he found it but I commend you for having Dennis Hebert work on that because I think it's out there you've just got to find it. And, finally, we should consider in the long term and I don't know the numbers and I know you don't want to talk numbers tonight but the number of officers involving in Community Policing. I hear regularly from the public in different sections of the City regarding police officers and from the Community Policing Unit and how they feel comfortable in reaching out to them with problems they have. Whether there's an Officer Cantwell I believe that's one of them and Alderman Duval mentioned Officer Langton and I'm sure there's others and I don't want to miss anybody but it's a great and effective tool led by Sergeant Kincaid and I know we're fixed on a number right now but I think as we move forward and as part of this overall program we should look at expanding the Community Policing Unit because I think they kind of mold this whole thing together and they're able to tie...I know Deputy you were personally involved with trying to help solve a...down in Alderman Shea's ward...a significant trash problem on an old railroad right-of-way and the Community Policing Unit was involved with that and to the best of my knowledge it got taken care of, I hope...I don't know complete but a step in the right direction. So, Community Policing brings a lot of things together other than just the law enforcement side and I hope it's something that we look at long-term as maybe expanding their role and expanding their numbers. So, thank you for the time your Honor.

Alderman Pinard stated Alderman Duval brought out a good point on the telephone and the time it takes to answer. I think I read...aren't you going to get a complete new communications set up in the police station tied up with the Fire Department somehow? It seems to me I read that in the paper.

Mayor Guinta asked are you talking about the Intergraph System?

Chief Jaskolka stated that I believe is all part of the Intergraph System...that's a dispatch and records management...that's not the phone system.

Alderman Pinard asked is that going to help you along...that new system?

Chief Jaskolka replied the system itself will but it has nothing to do with the phones.

Alderman Pinard stated at least it's going to help...Alderman Duval, I think it answers some of your questions. I have another idea that the eyes and the ears of the public is what helps the Police Department. I know that you have your bike patrol in the lower area of Manchester. I noticed that when I worked at the toll booths many years ago that Merrimack has a bike rake on almost every cruiser and they also have the bikes and go into certain areas and the visibility of the officers is there. Here in Ward 6 we're out and we've got Bodwell Road, Wellington Road and I'm sure there's other areas. It may be an idea, Chief, to maybe extend the Bicycle Patrol into different areas even in the northend where Alderman Gatsas lives. Notify the cruisers, ride the bikes, meet the people, talk to the people...that's what we've been talking about.

Chief Jaskolka stated we can extend it a bit. Where we do have problems in some of the parks and so forth we will send the bikes up there to patrol those areas. I think what you need to understand or what the public needs to understand as far as that goes in doing statistics for the last ten weeks we're answering 314 calls for service-a-day on average. As I've said before about a third of those are multi-unit response calls. So, probably somewhere up around 380-390 times-a-day we're dispatching an officer to something. If they're on bikes and they're in a particular area if they're assigned to a regular route the route is obviously much larger than a bicycle route would be so that may cut down their response time. If there were additional officers, the extra manpower then to put a bike route in certain areas in certain sectors it would be a great public relations tool.

Alderman Pinard stated it's just an idea and in another to have the officers seen because a lot of people such as in our area they don't see the cruisers on Holt Avenue or the other streets. Another thing I'd like to thank Sergeant Kincaid...we've been doing shows together for quite a while. We did one today on the news conference yesterday and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Tom Colantuono our U. S. Attorney for coming aboard and helping us to get this program going. The Liquor Commission has a slogan..."beware"...well, I think that anybody who is going to be listening to this show tonight and the criminal element "beware" because the "Boys in Blue" are going to be there. Thank you.

Mayor Guinta stated the one thing I just wanted to reiterate regarding Alderman Pinard's comments on bike routes. One of the benefits, I think, of having citizens more involved is to get feedback as to what they feel works in their neighborhoods. You see a lot of bike routes downtown, for example, bike officers going by Margarita's and downtown and you see

there's a benefit in that particular area...that will work in one location but it may not work in another. Having that institutional neighborhood knowledge gives us and the department an additional eyes and ears an additional resource to determine what the best mode of transportation is, the method of crime prevention and allowing the officers to have the flexibility to make some of those decisions I think is an improvement that we have made that does make a difference. When you allow an officer to have that flexibility to determine the approach that they prefer to take during their shift is something I think worth reviewing at the committee level and probably we can get greater information from the department because there's a lot of that change in philosophy that I think is occurring that's benefiting the neighborhoods. And, I hear particularly when I have the west side ward meetings I heard a very, a big improvement so to speak from the neighbors in the neighborhoods saying we like the Knock & Talk...it's a great example...that program seems to be not just beneficial to the neighborhoods but there's a success rate attached to it. So, I think again having the neighborhood involvement is absolutely critical.

Alderman DeVries stated I'm glad you actually segwayed into some of my comments which would be a reiteration of what I did say at our meeting last week. What I hear from neighborhoods and I understand we're talking lower intensity crimes and that's not really what we're trying to focus on here this evening. But, when I hear from my constituents that they will call into the Police Department to attempt to report groups hanging around schools or around other facilities and buildings and up to minor mischief and they're told that it's not a high enough priority calls, there's not the ability to respond to that call and that's all that is offered and then the next morning we find out there's thousands of dollars of vandalism, graffiti or other I don't know how we think we're going to be able to continue to engage our community in making this effort successful because it is many of these minor crimes that can escalate and they escalate within a community spot where youth then feel that they are protected, where they are not noticed and if the neighborhoods do believe that there is some mechanism to engage the police I think we can cut some of our more annoying calls. I don't know how we're going to get there because I understand the problem. There are more major significant issues crimes, drugs, whatever happening in other locations and these are minor. So, I am looking to see something that is above and beyond the mechanisms in place today as a possible solution. Whether it is working through the Neighborhood Watch groups...something also can be said to the constituents that call in with a minor complaint...you can't guarantee a response and that seems to be the problem...you have to tell them that unfortunately for this minor crime there is not going to be a guaranteed response, we don't want to leave you with the impression that there will be but we need to come together and find whatever another mechanism might be or we will never engage our neighborhoods to the extent that we want them in a Neighborhood Watch group in my opinion. Chief, I don't know if you wanted to reply I'm not telling you you have to I just had hoped that by bringing it up last week we'd have better conversation on that tonight.

Chief Jaskolka stated I agree with you, Alderman, and I can tell you that our people are not instructed to tell people that's not important enough for us to respond to...that's something that we'd like to hear back from so that we can take care of that situation...that shouldn't be happening. A call should be taken and entered into the computer. It may take some time to get there but they shouldn't be telling the caller well probably no ones going to show up because we're too busy. Now, that's something we'd like to know so that we can remedy that situation.

Alderman DeVries stated I hear it frequently from many sources so I would have to say that there is some verbiage similar to that that is being used whether it's good luck because it's a bad day or whatever. It all means the same thing to the constituents that unfortunately it's not a high priority call.

Chief Jaskolka reiterated that shouldn't be happening...that statement shouldn't be happening.

Alderman DeVries stated I have a suggestion for a number 11 that I'd like to add on to this list and as we refer this to committee I'd like to see a review of the Graffiti Removal Program and look for ways to possibly expand that for private properties. I know we had the discussion when we started the program but maybe there's enough of an issue in the City now that private businesses want to step up to the plate and assist financially if there's a need for a second tool or whatever. So, that's just referral to committee for discussion. I would also like to ask police also...I haven't heard a whole lot of strategic plans and I haven't heard it over the years and I'm not asking you to divulge any tactics that you'd rather discuss behind close doors but rather to give us a better outline of how you would like to see your department expand. I thought we might have seen something with the officers we added on this spring but as we look to expand and address issues within the community I'd like to see the schematics of how you would like to have your department growth whether it is through Community Policing or other efforts and I understand that you changed that. It's not like Highway Department with separate divisions that will stay solid that as a community needs change there needs to be some flexibility. But, I would like to see a strategic plan in place for the community you see today and how you think we might address...is it through additional routes so that there are more route cars that are put out there so that we can plan on additional cruisers to go with the patrol officers? So, as we start to work through committee that would be a helpful tool for me. Details on the high intensity and high visibility program and I guess, your Honor, I don't know if you'd like to...

Mayor Guinta stated why don't we do that now.

Alderman DeVries stated if I can get the floor back after we hear the answer I have one more question.

Mayor Guinta replied okay.

Alderman DeVries stated I would like to know how many shifts are being funded and not divulging anything that's tactical in nature.

Deputy Chief Leidemer stated I didn't hear the question on funding.

Alderman DeVries stated just some details on the high intensity, high visibility program.

Deputy Chief Leidemer stated that our plan is for the initiative that the Mayor spoke to earlier is we plan on having 12 additional law enforcement personnel go out three nights-a-week. There would be three groups of four, two Manchester personnel, a member of the State Parole Department and also a Hillsborough County Deputy Sheriff and as it relates to strategy I'm not going to get into that but I can assure you that we're going to have similar initiatives or initiatives similar to what we're currently doing both mobile, walking, the bike routes and we're not concentrating on one central area although that was perhaps the catalyst to it but we're not going to concentrate on one area. Regarding downtown we haven't mentioned that tonight...we haven't mentioned it at all and that's a good thing because I think in the last month or so the activity in the late night, early morning hours of downtown has been somewhat unremarkable and that's perhaps due in part to changing some of the hours that the officers that work in the area and we've also adjusted the hours of the mounted unit on Thursday evenings and Friday evenings so they also work till three o'clock in the morning to cover the times when the increased activity in the bars and the liquor establishments are closing.

Alderman DeVries stated the only thing I didn't hear is how long it would be likely to last with the current funding.

Deputy Chief Leidemer stated I don't think the figure has been capped. To my knowledge the figure hasn't been capped and I don't think a deadline has been set on when it will end. I get the sense that that will be activity driven.

Alderman DeVries stated so it could start up again next spring as the weather warms up and if the activities increase.

Deputy Chief Leidemer stated I'm not in a position to speak to whether it will start up again next spring. I know with the initiative that, the proposal that was put forward recently deals now with the remaining summer months and weeks.

Alderman DeVries asked, your Honor, do you think you could address that so that we know when we start looking at the strategy for the future budget years and next year are we including that initiative available to us in the springtime and next summer?

Mayor Guinta replied well that's entirely up to the U. S. Attorney. I don't want to speak for him but I think the funds that are available to communities throughout the state through the cooperation of the U. S. Attorney's office is incident driven. So, we'll address this level of incident now and you don't see an up tick in the spring which I would hope we don't those dollars would probably be utilized in either another community or in this community if it's warranted. My hope is with the six new positions that we swear in and the six vacant positions that we're able to fill you're going to see in a few months the benefits...on-street benefits of those particular officers. But, I would tell you that if there is a need, if I feel there's a need, if the Chief feels there's a need we'll go back to the U. S. Attorney and say we've got to come up with a plan that's tailored to the particular incident that may occur. Obviously my intention and hope is that we don't have to tap that resource because it's not necessarily an item we can budget for. There's a certain allocation we get, we've exhausted that, we announced more money earlier this year, I went back to the U. S. Attorney again and asked for more money, so I feel extremely appreciative at the U. S. Attorney's commitment and investment into the City because these are discretionary dollars that are more incident driven.

Alderman DeVries stated one final comment if I might because we've probably had more talk than action here this evening and though I know it's not my motion to make I would ask Alderman Lopez at this point to make his motion again this week that we offered up last week on the Reserve Program.

Alderman Lopez stated from what I understand we already did take the motion, it was passed that 20 Police Reserve Officers. Of course, we understand all of us that it's going to take time to get to that. So, I think the Police Chief and the discussion we had today that they would work on that number one and see where we go from there.

Alderman DeVries asked is that your understanding there's no final vote needed on that.

Mayor Guinta stated we talked about this this afternoon in our meeting and my understanding is the vote and we can get the Clerk to verify this was that it was approved to increase to 20 and then refer to this meeting for additional review and comment. So, I understand Alderman Lopez's position on that to be accurate. Beyond that we talked today about the reserve account itself and whether that's a revolving fund or a lapsing fund. I did talk to Kevin Clougherty and he's going to need a little time to research it. So, once I get back that information I can get back to you to determine if that account needs to be...if there's any changes that needs to be made because the idea presented by the Alderman is to build up the account a little bit as we build up the number of officers and because there's some equipment issues that have to be addressed as well as you bring on Reserve Officers. I thought we were going to be able to get that answer but I assume we'll get it this week.

Alderman Gatsas stated obviously we heard tonight that there's the ability to find outsourcing to file subpoenas or hand out subpoenas. Do we think that we should first before we put 20 Reserve Officers that pass out subpoenas...shouldn't we take a look at other alternatives before we just make that leap?

Mayor Guinta replied yes and I would like actually to include that in what we refer to the committee that that's also something I think the Police Department can look into on their own initiative without waiting for a committee report. I also think the Reserve Officer issue is going to take time to expand. So, if the idea that you suggested makes financial sense and it's reviewed by the department and they agree then I don't know that you would need any Board directive on that...it's more of an administrative decision, correct. Can you look into that and at the very least get back to Alderman Gatsas?

Alderman Gatsas stated but if it's cheaper...my point is if it's cheaper to do it as an outsource why are we going forward to even look to hire 20 Reserve Officers.

Mayor Guinta stated Alderman Lopez's proposal expands the utilization of the Reserve Officers but I'll let Alderman Lopez speak to that.

Alderman Lopez stated I think this is an on-going program...the Reserve Officers, and I think you're absolutely right in what you're saying as well as every Alderman on this Board has brought good ideas to the table. I think it's going to take time. For example, there's four Reserve Officers right now and we want to get that to six or eight or ten I don't think the Chief is going to be able to do that just overnight so procedurally to give him the authority to proceed...that's what the motion was to move forward with that 20. Now, if he does 10 in the next nine months or whatever the case may be but he knows he can go to 20 Reserve Officers. If we decide as a Board that we're going to give him 10 new police officers or 20 new police officers. I think everything has got to be put on the table so the Chief realizes that we're that we're all working together. Now, just to outsource as you are indicating if I may, your Honor, as I know Alderman Smith and Alderman Long want to speak and Alderman Garrity. I just want to clear up something in my own mind and maybe it went by when someone said the \$1.2 million that we get for the special programs for when you go out. If we would give you an additional 10 or 15 does that mean that you could absorb all these special programs without that money? The Alderman mentioned the \$1.3 overtime money, I thought that was for the special programs and reaction to crime. So, I'm a little confused and I just want to clear that up. Is that \$1.3 million solely if you have 10 new officers or 15 whatever the number might be.

Deputy Chief Simmons replied of that \$1.3...those are all special initiatives. Those are all grant driven special initiatives. Some of it was money that was allocated by the Board to us for speed enforcement, etc. Do I think that if we had an additional 10 or 12 officers...new additions to the department that we wouldn't have to come to the Board for speed

enforcement and things of that nature, I would think yes we'd probably have a better handle on taking care of some of those issues that we've been receiving additional funds for. However, the special initiatives such as Weed and Seed, etc. are all federally-funded that I'm not sure that with 10 or 12 officers we'd be able to adapt to that and I still think as a department we continue to seek additional grants along the way. We'll always continue to do that...there's are always initiatives out there that we need.

Alderman Lopez stated that is why I wanted to bring up that point because I don't want to mislead, get a little confused when the \$1.3 million came up and all the special programs the Captain mentioned that we eliminate that, hire more police officers with the money. We're still going to get that money for the grants for overtime for special programs because you won't have enough police officers do to all of the special programs.

Mayor Guinta stated let me have Alderman Gatsas respond and then I've got a list of people who still have not spoken so I will go to those people because I know it's.

Alderman Gatsas stated I think the clarity of the issue is that in the budget there's \$900,000 for overtime pay.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated out of the City budget correct.

Alderman Gatsas stated you also receive \$1.3 million in grants.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated in grant funds yes.

Alderman Gatsas stated those funds aren't allocated to just full-time officers, they must be allocated because the \$15 million goes to your full complement for their base wages.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated correct.

Alderman Gatsas stated so the \$1.3 has to be allocated towards overtime. I don't care how you mix it but it's overtime dollars. So, if an officer...

Deputy Chief Simmons interjected a couple of the grants such as the Domestic Violence grant...some of that goes to pay a portion of the salary of two of our DART officers.

Alderman Gatsas stated I understand but that's not \$1.3. I'm saying the majority of the \$1.3 is used for overtime.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated the majority of it I would say yes.

Alderman Gatsas stated this goes back to where we were with the Fire Department. I'm saying give me an average of...you said the average wage for somebody...the average wage for police officers for time-and-a-half is how much per hour?

Deputy Chief Simmons replied about \$40.00 an hour.

Alderman Gatsas stated \$40.00 an hour...his regular rate would be somewhere around time-and-a-half would be...take you down to thirty something...like twenty-eight something...it's about \$28/hour, so you could put 30 officers on at regular time and get you that many more police officers on the force for the \$1.3 million that you could be paying and allocating. You have the money; you're paying in overtime.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated it's all grant driven for special initiatives so we can't just utilize that and put officers on the street driving around in a cruiser. They're utilized for special initiatives all of those grants.

Alderman Gatsas stated so the special initiative if it's a \$40,000 special initiative that means that's the overtime that it's based on.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated it could be sure for a specific grant.

Alderman Gatsas stated as this Board said to you hire an officer to enforce speed because that's what the allocation was...hire a police officer. What you did was turn around and just pay overtime for people to do it. So, if we said for whatever special program you're talking about if there was an allocation of \$50,000 which right now being used for overtime you could say I'm putting a police officer on that one special detail.

Deputy Chief Simmons replied that's correct.

Alderman Gatsas stated so you could hire a new officer to do something...maybe 30's the wrong number, maybe 20's the number, maybe 15 but it's new officers with current dollars. Because at \$2.2 million that means there's \$10,000 per person at the Police Department that's being paid.

Mayor Guinta interjected why don't we do this. If we could because I think this is going to require more time than we have right now...if we could get possible a report analyzing all of the different fully-funded grants that amount to the \$1.3...let's do an analysis of where the dollars are specifically going and then if we could also get an analysis of the requirements set forth by the federal government because if there's a way to make this happen then it makes sense but I think that the requirements are so narrow that you can't do what the Alderman is suggesting but let's take a look at the analysis and see if there is something we can do.

Alderman O'Neil stated that's what I think Alderman Gatsas' basic question is...can that money be used for full-time officers and that's the basic question. I believe the grants are in for overtime but he used the example of the traffic officer that was a City grant and it got used for overtime and the officer never got hired.

Mayor Guinta stated if we can get that information...is a couple of weeks fair to try to compile that.

Deputy Chief Simmons replied we can give a better breakdown on each grant and what it entails and how much of that is overtime, how much of it is responsible for training and any other needs.

Mayor Guinta stated that would be helpful.

Alderman Gatsas asked can you also get us the W-2's...I don't want to know the names, I don't need to see them but the total W-2's for all the police officers.

Deputy Chief Simmons stated I don't know if Finance would have that.

Alderman Gatsas stated I'm sure they've got a bunch.

Alderman O'Neil stated what Deputy Chief Simmons' responded to I think the basic thing is with every grant is that grant eligible for overtime or would it allow for full-time position. I think that needs to be part of the summary.

Alderman Long stated thank you gentlemen for this very information meeting I've learned a lot and it's clear to me after Captain Lessard's presentation that our police officers are certainly earning what they're getting...they're stretched in my opinion. If I could, Chief, you mentioned the high volume of calls in June. Do those calls include calls to say Sergeant Kincaid with respect to the Community Policing Units?

Chief Jaskolka replied they're broken down. The calls that came into the department itself, the entire department were 59,497, the calls that came into communications itself whether units are dispatched out was 33,000...so, if you subtract the two numbers which is about 26,000 calls would have gone to other areas within the department. But 33,731 actually went into the communications center. The other 26,000 went to every other division in the department.

Alderman Long stated I get a lot of calls from constituents with respect to response time or police not being able to answer a call or prioritizing. But, the Neighborhood Watch meetings that I've been going to I haven't heard one of those constituents tell me that they have a problem with getting callbacks from the Community Policing Units. So, I just need to

reiterate the importance of the citizen's involvement. People that are calling me with those complaints I'm asking them to join a Neighborhood Watch. Although I'm not advocating for a non-response, however, take the initiative as a citizen to solve the problem that we're trying to work on here. I wanted to mentioned tonight we had several Neighborhood Watch people that were sitting in the audience and I thank them for that, they do a great job from where I'm sitting. There is one in particular that had a problem with authority or a problem with police and since getting involved it's turned around, it's just that simple. Become part of the solution instead of the problem. My concern with these calls from constituents that are being negative toward the Police Department...there's this wall I'm afraid is going to set up so before that wall gets set up I ask those people to get involved. Just a clarification with respect to walking patrols. I'm not really hearing that walking patrols doesn't work. What I'm hearing is that we don't have a complement, we don't have enough of a complement to allow walking patrols. Is that a correct statement?

Chief Jaskolka replied that's correct. Again, if we had the complement we'd have some probably in the downtown area, maybe down around Lake Avenue and Spruce in that area, we might have done a couple of other areas in the City where we could put walking patrols. But, at the current time we need the response time, somebody either in a cruiser or on a bicycle. Again, they serve their purpose, they're a great public relations tool, you get to really know the people in the neighborhood, they get to know their neighborhood cop but they become ineffective when you need that officer somewhere and you can't get him there because he's on foot.

Alderman Long stated as far as your concerned and in your expert opinion walking patrols are a plus in the City, would be a plus in the City.

Chief Jaskolka replied they'd be a plus in certain areas yes.

Alderman Long stated I know that you already mentioned with respect to the undocumented citizens, the illegal aliens...in your opinion what percentage would you say of the violent crimes or crimes in general would be undocumented citizens?

Deputy Chief Leidemer replied I don't think we have a percentage available to us and I'm not sure we have the mechanism to acquire that information. When we spoke earlier we were speaking...the question was two-fold part of it was how many illegal aliens do we see involved in these things and the second part of the question was how many people do we see involved in these types of events that aren't Manchester residents and we spoke more clearly and more definitively to the part of the question that deal with who doesn't live in Manchester, who's visiting, who's transient to Manchester. We don't want to paint a picture that a lot of this activity or a disproportionate amount of this activity is due to illegal aliens but we certainly have strong evidence that coupled with that it's people that are not from Manchester have no vested in our community and they're transients.

Alderman Long stated thank you that's what I need to clear. I believe in the State of New Hampshire within 24 hours you're a resident from what I understand. I don't know if addressing that is part of the solution. Are we going to card people coming in? If you want to move to Manchester for a week...you're going to move to Manchester for a week. With respect to the absentee landlord it's absent landlords not absentee landlords. It's landlords that are just simply absent. They don't have an investment here, they don't look at their apartment buildings. They have a manager who collects the rent and what have you...it's an absent landlord and again I thank you all for your due diligence and your respect and time and energy you put in serving the City. Thank you.

Alderman Smith stated these are Crime Prevention recommendations and most of my comments are addressed to parking and I want to comment on Sergeant Kincaid's fine work, he's helped me out many a times. Most of my calls are in regards to parking. I have a very diverse ward...most of them are single-family homes but where I have the problems is the multi-family homes. I think you know the locations and don't want to give them out right now...one is a drug haven and another two or three episodes have occurred in the ward and I'm talking from probably West Hancock Street to Granite Street...this is where my problems are...not up towards the Bedford or Goffstown. I have severe problems and I don't know if your hot spot group is going to adhere to these situations but one I'll give it out right now...Log Street. I have all kinds of problems there...all kinds of problems...drugs, shootings, etc. People won't even go in one side or the other and I'd like to know if somebody would like to address that or not.

Deputy Chief Leidemer stated we spoke earlier about some of the initiatives and plans that we have put into place, some of the strategies we've put into place and I spoke briefly on quality of life issues. When some of the issues first surfaced on Granite Street, Douglas Street and in that general area we went to foot patrols so that demonstrates that we believe that they are effective and efficient and we addressed more than just some of the violent crime that's occurring there. I mentioned earlier...the first night we went out we towed five cars and that's a quality of life issue. We targeted people loud...someone sitting on their car at the curb with the stereo blaring...we targeted that. We certainly look for parking violations...that's a long answer to your question but when these initiatives go out they're full service and we're going to look for things, however, minute they are that will improve the quality of life but also address some of some of the other more serious things that are taking place.

Alderman Garrity stated I'd like to address some of the issues I've been dealing with in my ward and it's crimes that are low priority. My constituents calls me, they call the Police Department...Chief they are told we're going to get there when we can get there so they are being told that. I received a phone call at 7:15 on Monday morning...this particular person called Sunday night...never a response...didn't sleep all night from a loud party that was

across the street from them...underage drinking, no response whatsoever. So, needless to say when he called me at 7:15 on Monday morning he wasn't pleased. The other issue I'd like to address is we've encouraged a lot of people to call the Police Department tonight...call in with your concerns, call your Neighborhood Watch...things like that. Well, when you call the 668-8711 number nobody picks up. I talked to Deputy Chief Leidemer about it, it's a manpower issue. We have to address that. If we're going to encourage people to call the Police Department they want to talk to a live person so we really need to address that issue soon. If it's a manpower issue then let's solve it. Thank you.

Deputy Chief Leidemer stated one of the things that we've heard very clearly here is that's an issue and we work very hard and everyone has complimented Kevin Kincaid and the Community Police Unit and they deserve all of that recognition and compliments. But, we work very hard to make stronger partnerships with the community and hearing quite loudly a complaint that we have to do a better job in that area. We don't want to work so hard to make these partnerships and Neighborhood Watches and ask for community involvement and then take steps backwards because they're frustrated because they can't get through to us. We've heard it, give us an opportunity to address it.

Alderman Garrity stated again we've had our conversations...it's a manpower issue. If it's a manpower issue then let's solve the issue even if it's just for the summer. Again, Alderman O'Neil said overtime. If we have to pay overtime to have a live person to answer the phone at the Police Department because everyone wants to talk to a live person then let's get it done.

Alderman Shea stated what I was going to say is the most important thing I've heard this evening runs along this line. More study without thought is useless but thought without study is dangerous and the things, Chief, that you pointed out earlier when you said we are studying three things: trends, causes and strategic planning. These are the things...all night long people have addressed for the most part what the effects have been...crime, absentee property owners...all of these things. Now, a blueprint has to be set up whereby how do we deal with these things, what are the causes of crime, what are the trends that are coming into this particular scenario. What are the kinds of tools that are necessary in order for us to put into place strategic planning. These are the things. We have gone through, we can't undo what has already been done. We can't minimize what has already taken place. But, now as the Aldermanic Board and as a Police unit you folks now have to start examining very carefully all of the things that you've mentioned. What is causing crime to exist in Manchester whether it be in one location or another location. What are the trends, what are we looking for as we discuss things with the local police and the units that we have plus the state plus at the federal level...the FBI, DEA and other places...what are the trends, what are the strategic plans that we have to put into place. So, all of these things are the important ingredients that I foresee coming forth to the Aldermanic Board in order for us to make a better community. These are the things that I have gotten this even.

Alderman O'Neil stated I just wanted to chime in on the phone situation...government for some reason is fascinated with a central control point and this isn't exclusive to the Manchester Police Department...government in general. Business has solved that in many cases by direct lines to divisions, individual direct phone lines, so it's something we need to think out of the box here a little bit about and I'm aware that somewhere over the years...I've seen information where some police department's have used that similar thing...if they want the traffic division it is a certain line...6321...and if you want crime prevention it's 632...where people dial directly and don't always have to wait for a central operator to pick up and then redirect that line. It's something worth looking at and I hope before we break tonight we do have one final discussion with them about is there a need for some money for overtime for the next few months. Thank you.

Alderman Roy stated staying on the vein that Alderman O'Neil was just going down I believe if you dial the 668-8711 number it does give you that option and that is how I got to Deputy Chief this afternoon. That being said I don't want to leave this meeting because we won't be back for another month without some closure so, Chief, I am going to try to lead you down a road and hopefully you'll go with me. In the past we've talked about the cost of a nationwide search for bilingual officers. Do you have a number in mind that you've talked about before or what you feel?

Chief Jaskolka replied I have a number with me. We've done some research and what it's going to cost to advertise. We do advertise on our website...I don't have the number of people that have applied through that. We do get interests from across the country...the exact figures I don't have. I know that people do use the internet a lot more. Obviously, there are nationwide police publications that we can advertise in also. Again, I don't have that sheet with me though.

Aldermen Roy stated in the past we've talked about a number...\$50,000. So, I'm going to go out on the limb here and look at the number of \$40,000 that I would ask this Board before we leave this evening we authorize \$40,000 out of Contingency funds for FY07 so that we can do a nationwide search for bilingual offices. Let the other communities in New York and San Antonio and Chicago know that we're hiring and we're a great place to live and so I will make that in the form of a motion when I'm done.

Mayor Guinta asked are you asking the Board to vote on that tonight or include that to send it to the Public Safety and Traffic Committee?

Alderman Roy replied I believe I'm asking since we're not going to meet for another month. Chief, you mentioned you had a test coming up in September.

Chief Jaskolka replied yes September 18th.

Alderman Roy stated okay so a little over 40 days from now you have a test. I personally would like to see and the next subject I was going to bring up was one in the vein of what the Mayor brought up earlier of his vote to increase the complement. I honestly feel that if we have a complement of 215 we should have 215 on the street...light duty and active overseas military and injuries to deal with so I'd ask this Board to at a minimum vote to go to a 225 this evening which would allow you through that advertisement to see what we can get. Unhandcuff your number and see if you could bring in 20 certified officers. It's a large number, it's a goal but I do believe that we should be looking at doing a 235 complement as a minimum and we may never get there. As the Chief and the Deputies have said we have a hard time hiring all police departments do. But, if we look for 215 and get there and then have six retire within a month it's pointless. We need to go ahead and set the bar high and try to obtain it and if we get to a 220 and keep 210 on the street fantastic...that helps the problem. So, I would ask the Board to look at a number of no less than 225 approved this evening and a \$40,000 contingency transfer so the Chief can go ahead and advertise those positions. I would also ask with the conversation of Reserve Officers to have 20 Reserve Officers costs a ridiculous low amount of the 160-hours-a-month they would work times \$19.03... \$3,044/year to have those people there. We could not outsource our subpoenas for that at \$50. So, I would look to go ahead and have that approved immediately in support of Alderman Lopez. We, again, may not get to the 20 right away but at least if they're serving subpoenas they're doing the job. On my last right along there was an injured drunk driver that was arrested. The officer on patrol that I was with ended up spending five hours at the Elliot Hospital waiting to do a drug test. So, that's something that a Reserve Officer could have done put that patrol car back in I believe it was in Wards 4 and 5 that that patrol car was in. Those are the things that I'd like to see the Reserve Officers doing...sitting in hospitals, sitting in bookings...not just serving subpoenas. So, if we have those people in those positions I think chief if you want to comment on that's something that will get the active patrol officers back in the cars and back on the streets.

Mayor Guinta stated the proposal by Alderman Lopez I think addresses it. We're working toward getting that proposal moving, we've got another issue to deal with regarding outsourcing so I think we've covered that and I'm going to go to Alderman O'Neil.

Alderman Roy stated before I yield the floor, your Honor.

Mayor Guinta stated I do want Alderman O'Neil to have an opportunity to speak and I'm going to go to Alderman Osborne for a motion.

Alderman O'Neil stated I do respect the issues that my colleague from Ward 1 brought up tonight. I'm not sure we need to act on those tonight though. No matter what our complement it's not going to change how many people apply and successfully pass the testing process to become police officers. I agree they need to give strong consideration

during this process. I'm aware of at least one bilingual person that is going to take the test and I hope all consideration will be given to that individual. I do think and while I have the floor I'd like to ask the Chief do you need some money to address issues in the next two to three months?

Chief Jaskolka replied again in order to put the additional police officers on the street yes. In order to address the problems that we're attempting to address now with the current complement obviously if we put more officers on the street we can have more dedicated patrols and part of this and latest incentive the one that will be going out very shortly those are going to be very dedicated patrols...they are going to have very specific areas that they're going to work in and basically police those areas, clean those areas up.

Alderman O'Neil stated I don't know what that number is. I think Alderman Roy's point in his letter about we have a complement of 215 but there's only 193 active today means something. We're asking them to do an awful lot with 193 officers and I think we need to authorize some money for some level of overtime in the evening second and third shift to hit all these problem areas and I'll use the statement make the criminal elements life's miserable and we will see a period of time as it gets colder a lot of the street level crime will start to go behind the door and at least it won't be out disrupting many of the neighborhoods in the City. I don't know what that number is, that's what I'm looking for. Is it \$5,000, is it \$10,000...I'll make a motion on either but I need that number.

Alderman Gatsas stated we're a little less over 40 days into this budget I would think that there's enough money in the overtime line account right now for the chief to drawdown and if there's a problem next May we can address it then but I would think that he has the availability if it's about putting more people on and addressing an overtime situation...we're as I said 40 days into a budget...there's \$900,000 in an overtime account that I think that if the Chief says he's got to put on 30 people in that 6 to 3 number then he should have the ability to do that as the head of that department. You don't need this Board...correct me if I'm wrong...you don't need this Board to tell you that you can put overtime in a certain place.

Chief Jaskolka stated I agree Alderman. I guess my concern would be with the budget as it stands. Normally what happens at the end of the year is when we go over on overtime we draw from salary and that's dependent upon the salary adjustment account so I guess I can't overspend my overtime budget without approval of this Board.

Alderman Gatsas stated right but 40 days into the budget you've got \$900,000 I don't think that unless you decide to spend an awful lot of money in the next two months.

Chief Jaskolka stated I wish I could predict what's going to happen the rest of the year. I guess that's what I'm saying. We can't guarantee that we're not going to have 10 or 12 major crimes that's going to tie up hundreds of hours of overtime.

Alderman O'Neil stated I'm less concerned how we get there. The bottom line is how can we get more police officers out on the street for the next two or three months...that's what I'd like to see happen leaving here tonight.

Mayor Guinta asked is there an addition to yesterday's announcement>

Chief Jaskolka stated yesterday's announcement is the patrols that we are going to dedicate to specific hot spot areas where these patrols will be dedicated to that area in order to deal with the identified problems. Again, what we did with the Street Sweeper patrols and previous patrols is we dedicated them to certain areas and as the Deputy said earlier the downtown area has been unremarkable. The concern being is the pigeon effect. Once we go away are they going to flock to these areas again because we're dedicating resources to another area.

Alderman Lopez stated I think Alderman Gatsas is correct. I think the direction from this Board would accomplish what Alderman O'Neil was saying. If we're saying Chief that you need an additional \$10,000 or \$20,000 and you had the money understanding that we're telling you that if you need these officers and you have to pay them overtime to go out there and accomplish what we're trying to accomplish we understand at the end of the year that you have committed when it comes back to us that we might have to take some of that money out of reserves or someplace but if the direction of this Board is saying and you're telling us that what you received yesterday you can use additional money and we're giving you the authority to use it with the understanding that we know about your budget going forward...this is an addition you just have to keep track of it such as in May you would have to send a letter to the Finance Officer and say this \$20,000 this Board told me to go ahead and spend and that would be on record here so it would be well covered in that particular instance. So, I guess the question being...

Mayor Guinta interjected why don't we do this...there seems to be a general consensus here about spending some overtime money for additional resources beyond what we've got on the street. Why don't we come up with a number, authorize the Chief, ask him to come back in September with a report. I think the general idea here is immediate...you're looking for additional officers with an immediate impact correct.

Alderman O'Neil replied correct. I'll make the motion that we authorize the Police Department to commit funds to put more officers on the street for the next three months. I don't want to wait until September because we've lost the whole month of August...they need to do that now and then we can confirm the number as we move forward as they see fit.

Mayor Guinta stated just to clarify I wasn't saying wait until September. I was saying authorize it now, get a report in September as to how things have progressed.

Alderman O'Neil stated I'd like to authorize it starting tomorrow or sooner as soon as they possibly can...they get more police officers out on the street.

Mayor Guinta stated I need to get the motion first.

Alderman O'Neil moved that we authorize the Police Department to spend overtime money to place additional officers on the street for the next three months. I trust their judgment on what that number is and where those officers are placed, what shift.

Alderman Thibault duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Gatsas stated just a clarification...are you saying additional funds over the \$900,000 that's in that line item now?

Alderman O'Neil replied I believe what's going to happen Alderman and I don't want to speak for the Chief...thinking back through the budget process that \$900,000 is probably less than what their request was. So, they're going to have overtime this summer to cover vacation, they're going to have overtime to cover sick days, they have overtime to pay for court and I'm sure there might be some other overtime I'm missing...training. So, the reality is I don't want to handcuff them to say don't take that money and spend it now to get additional police officers on the streets. I can't tell you what that number is and I can't tell you how the books are going to balance at the end of the year. All I know is I would like to leave here tonight with giving them some direction to put some police officers on the streets. If it means they can do it within their budget at the end of the next fiscal year fine. If it means we've got to commit some contingency money or other funding sources to do that I'm fine with that as well. Bottom line is I want to leave here tonight knowing that there is going to be more police officers on the street for the next two to three months.

Alderman Thibault stated I would think that you just hit the nail on the head. That in September they must come back or should come back here to this Board and tell us how and how much we needed and what you've done so that the Board can be apprised as to what you've done so if we do have to put in more money in there in six months from now we know where that went. I think the Mayor hit it on the nail as far as I'm concerned.

Mayor Guinta stated just to reiterate we did announce yesterday exactly what you're asking us to do with the 12 additional officers. So, I just want to make sure you're clear that that's being done in conjunction with the money we just...

Alderman O'Neil stated that's fine but what I heard the Chief say is that's very targeted to the so-called hot spots...there are parts of the City beyond the hot spots...it sounded like he was supportive of my motion. I could be wrong.

Alderman Roy stated if I understand this motion correctly we're authorizing the Chief to do something that he's already authorized to do by being the department head. What we need to do is put a number that we're willing to back him on next year when he falls short if he uses overtime money now...am I correct now, Chief, in that...do you have this authority now?

Chief Jaskolka replied I have the authority to spend the overtime...the \$900,000 that we requested was a very lean overtime budget that we did request. So, I guess my concern is that I don't want to spend that money down now and come next May come up short or say in March or April when I realize that I have other major crimes that I have to tell my detectives you guys are working nine to five and no overtime.

Alderman Roy stated so if we vote yes with Alderman O'Neil all we're really voting for is that we will protect you come next May if you come up short in your overtime line item. Is that your understanding of this? We're comfortable with that, okay. If that's the way it's being perceived I'm 100% in favor. I personally think we should be going the direction of more long-term solutions like Alderman Gatsas not using overtime but filling full-time positions.

Alderman Garrity stated so move the question, your Honor.

Mayor Guinta stated is that what you were going to say, Alderman Osborne, move the question or did you have another comment?

Alderman Osborne replied I didn't say it.

Mayor Guinta stated I know Alderman Garrity did but I know you've had your hand up.

Alderman Osborne stated I want to make a motion myself.

Mayor Guinta stated we have this motion on the floor, let's address this motion and then I'm going to go back to alderman Osborne for a secondary motion.

Alderman Duval stated an opposing viewpoint to what Alderman O'Neil has raised and echoed by Alderman Roy. A number of things have been discussed tonight and I'm sure there's going to be a lot more discussion to take place in the weeks and months to come and a number of initiatives that the Mayors' proposed and Alderman Roy's proposed and Alderman Lopez's will be banged out and I know we have the years and the valuable experience that the administration of the Police Department brings to this discussion as well.

Why are we in my opinion off the cuff here acting hastily on a motion when there's going to be all of this exchange of dialogue in the coming weeks and months and we don't all know how this is going to shake out. The Chief has the authority to go ahead and operate his department as he sees fit and that includes the financial component of this, which is very significant. If he has the authority already I would hope that he would make the best decisions. I trust that he will. If that means using that overtime to put more officers on the street I'm sure he'll make that decision to do so. I don't know why we would be doing this tonight, quite frankly.

Alderman O'Neil stated the bottom line is everything else that's been talked about tonight is long-term. We're not going to have anything approved...my guess would be mid-fall at the earliest. Many of these items we need to get additional police officers on the street tonight...not in September, not in October, not in December...we need to get them on...summer is still here...into the early fall we need to get police officers on the street tonight. I agree with you the Chief is authorized to spend that money but he needs to know and I think that's really the basis of my motion that the Aldermen are going to stand with them if there's a shortfall in the overtime line item come next spring as the fiscal year starts to close...that's what the motion is and I'll move the question.

Mayor Guinta called for a vote on the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman DeVries requested a roll call vote.

Alderman Garrity stated it was unanimous.

Mayor Guinta stated it sounded pretty unanimous.

Alderman Lopez stated I just want to make sure that we don't lose site of the Reserves...the direction is to move forward with Reserve Officers and let the chief and his Deputies work out the details and come forward with it. They have four Reserve Officers, they can get two more...eight more or whatever the case may be but regardless of whether we have a full complement the intent of having Reserve Officer is to move forward and work out the details...that's a direction that we're giving the Police Department...that's the direction that we gave at the last meeting. So, I don't think that there's any doubt on that...that doesn't have to go to committee and hold it in committee for all that time...it's the direction that this Board...

Mayor Guinta interjected I would agree.

Alderman Osborne stated on that particular item there I wonder how much money are we spending.

Mayor Guinta replied the Chief is the Chief of Police. Let him do his job and figure out what...the motion did not include a dollar amount but I think the Chief probably has a good idea of what...

Alderman Osborne interjected I know if we're guaranteeing it next year what are we guaranteeing?

Mayor Guinta stated I'm certainly going to have a conversation with him right after the meeting. The intent of the Board, I think, is to let the Chief know that if you need to these resources are at your disposal, use them as you see fit. I think he understood that message. I'll have a conversation about the dollar amount and I suspect we'll get that dollar amount back to the Board so you have an idea of what the impact is.

Alderman Osborne moved to refer this matter to the Committee on Public Safety and Traffic and request the Police Department to come up with some sort of an analysis by the 22nd of this month when we're going to meet as Public Safety I think we can do a lot of things there...we can take this whole agenda and move it there and go from there. Alderman O'Neil duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Roy asked of the Chairman of the Committee on Public Safety does that include the three pages of correspondence.

Mayor Guinta replied any and all correspondence including number 11 and 12.

Mayor Guinta called for a vote on the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman Gatsas stated I just have a \$64,000 question for your Chief. Do you have enough police officers to put them on even in overtime duty? I understand where Alderman O'Neil is going, I accept that, I think it's the right thing to do but do you have enough officers to put them in an overtime capacity to get those officers to the street?

Chief Jaskolka replied I can tell you there's occasions when some of the details go unfilled but for the most cases I would say that I'm 98% certain that I am going to be able to fill the needed details.

Alderman Gatsas stated the next question is an obvious one. How many police officers would that be?

Chief Jaskolka replied I think what I would do with this particular money would be a two-person unit whether it would be walking, bicycle, identifying areas such as Log Street or

those areas where there's different problems or we'd put somebody over there...that particular unit may hit three or four different units during the course of the night dealing with quality of life issues on Log Street, dealing with drug problems on one of the other streets and then that would...obviously, various hours. I don't think I'd put those out on the late night patrols...that could be a Saturday afternoon detail if we're having a situation with loud music, loud parties in three or four different areas then a detail like that might go out and walk that particular area and then take care of those quality of life issues.

Alderman Gatsas stated correct me if I'm wrong, Alderman O'Neil, I don't think you're only talking about two people...as least I wouldn't assume you were.

Alderman O'Neil stated id didn't think it was going to take a high number of officers to do this...just get some more additional officers and I leave that up to the Chief and the department. If the Chief thinks it's two, it's two. If he thinks it's four, it's four and I support that. But, if he thinks two officers can make a difference in some of these troubled spots then I support him on it.

Chief Jaskolka stated it's all going to be activity driven. It's the calls, the information we're getting, what the problem is. It's like when we switch the regular route officers...particular route boundaries, when we change supervisor's hours, it's activity driven. When something is happening we adjust our resources to it.

This being a special meeting of the Board, no further business was presented and on motion of Alderman Smith, duly seconded by Alderman Forest, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk